

H O M U N C U L U S

ホ ム ン ク ル ス



11

H I D E O Y A M A M O T O

H
O
M
U
N
C
U
L
U
S



FLAG: FLEA MARKET



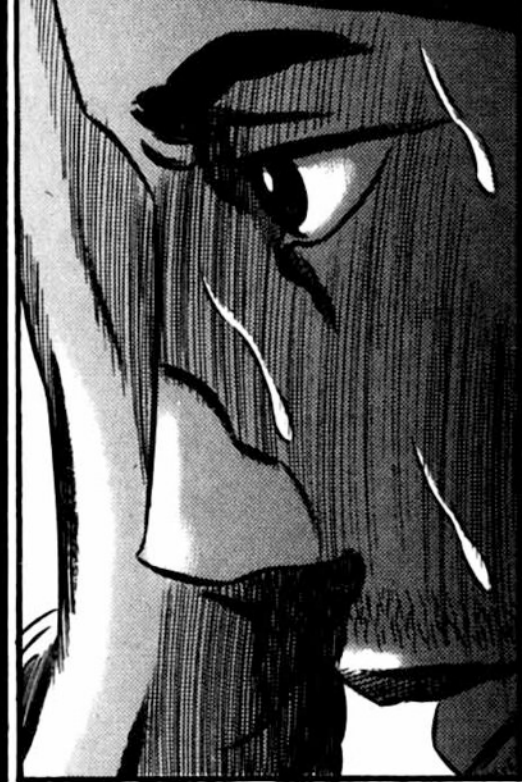
WHERE IS THERE
SOMEONE WHO
KNOWS MY
OLD FACE?

SOMEONE
WHO LOOKS
EXACTLY
LIKE ME...

WHERE ARE
THEY...











A LEG
WITHOUT
ANY
FEELING.



MY FEET
ARE NOW
COMPLETELY
DEVOID OF A
STENCH...



HOW DID
THEY SMELL
BEFORE?

NO...



IS IT
NECESSARY
TO REMEMBER
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT...?



IS IT
NECESSARY
FOR THEM
TO HAVE A
SMELL?

8

THAT'S IT...



I DON'T
NEED
ACTUAL
FEELING
...



TO SEARCH
FOR MY
TRUE SELF?

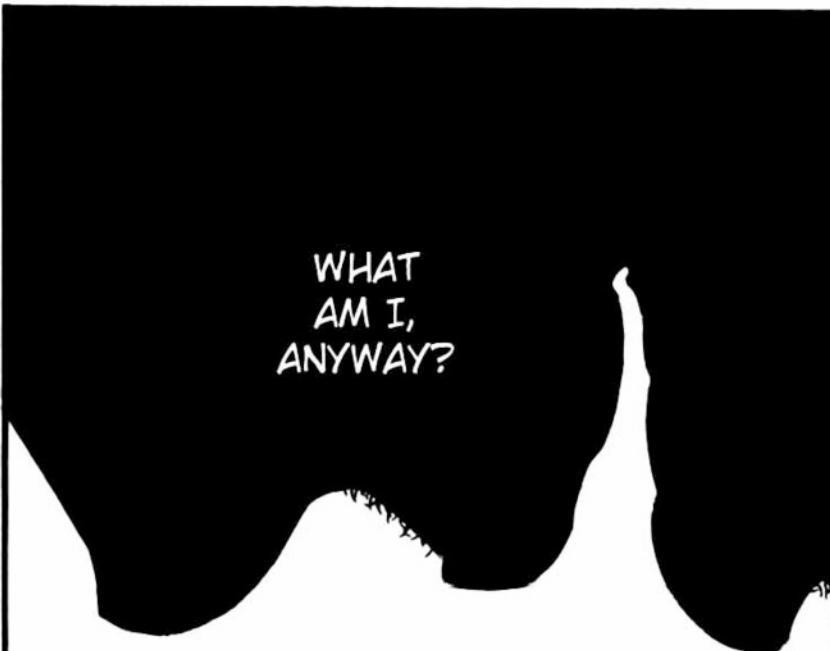
WHAT
GOOD WILL
IT DO



IF I
REMEMBERED
HOW I ONCE
WAS?

WHAT
WOULD
I DO

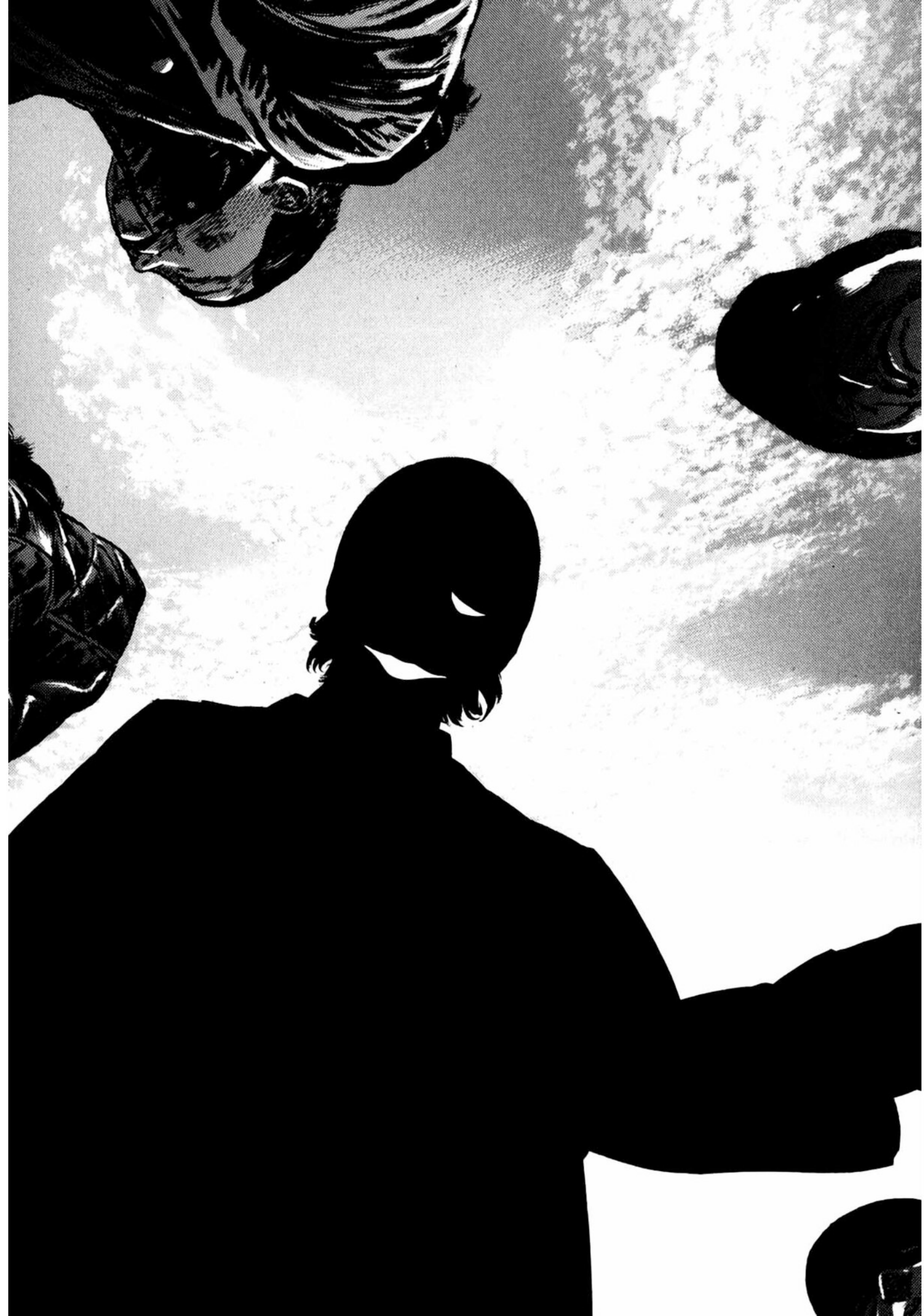
10



WHAT
AM I,
ANYWAY?



WHAT
ARE THESE
HOMUNCULI,
ANYWAY?



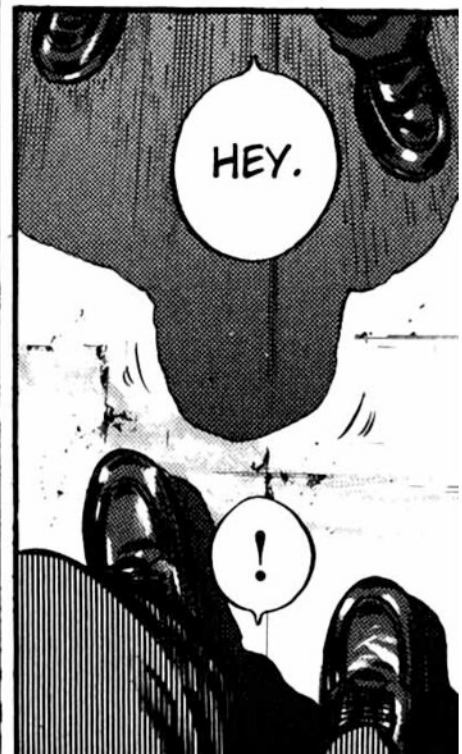


CAR
BOY!

12

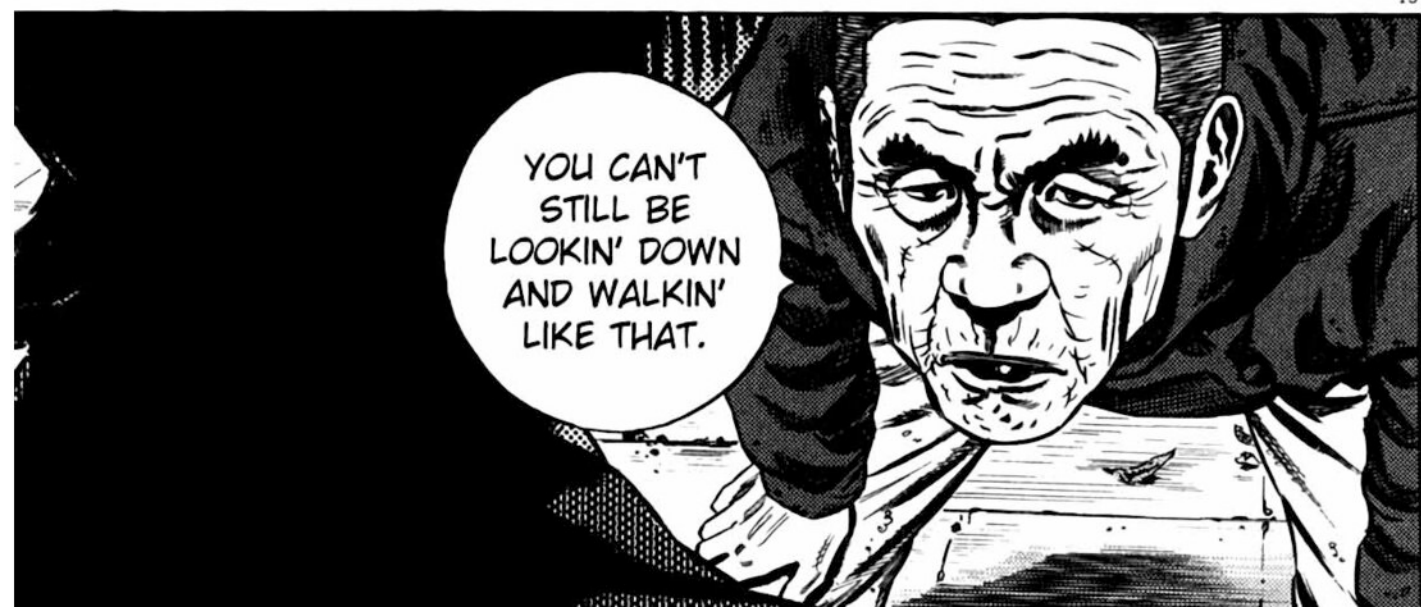


BOY.



HEY.







THEN YOU
WON'T BE
ABLE TO
SEE AHEAD,
BEHIND, UP,
OR TO THE
SIDE.

IF YOU
LOOK
DOWN,

14



IT'S STILL
TOO EARLY
FOR YOU

TO BE
CUTTING OFF
EVERYTHING
BUT YOUR-
SELF.





!

ME AND THE OTHER HOMELESS EVENTUALLY END UP LOOKING DOWN AND WALKING LIKE THAT...

.....

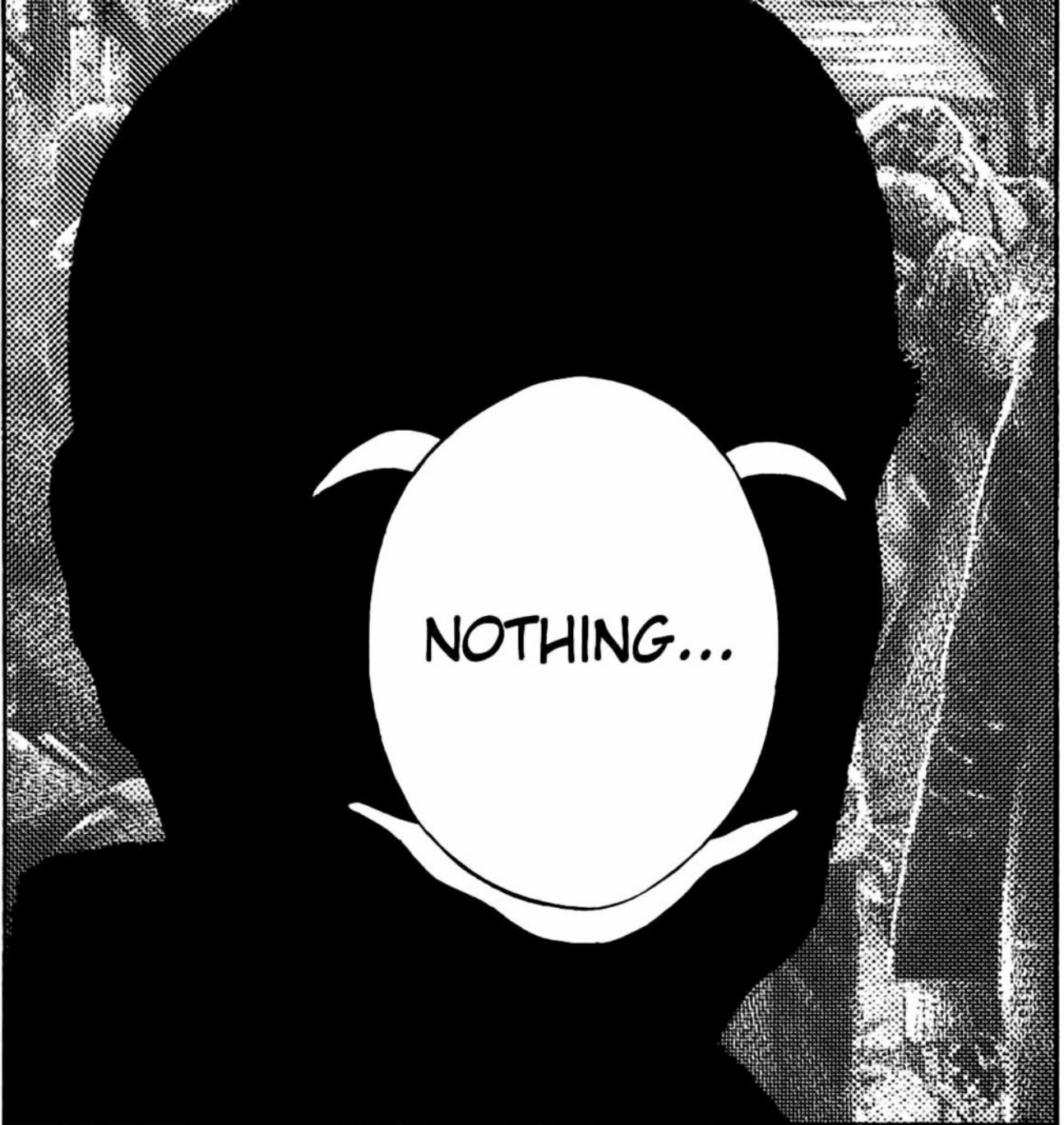
AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE LOOKING DOWN SEARCHING FOR MONEY.

DON'T WANT TO FEEL ANYTHIN'...

THEY DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN,

AND NO ONE WANTS TO BE SEEN BY ANYONE...

NO ONE WANTS TO SEE ANYTHING,



18





THING?

YOU WON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHERE YOU ARE
ANYMORE,

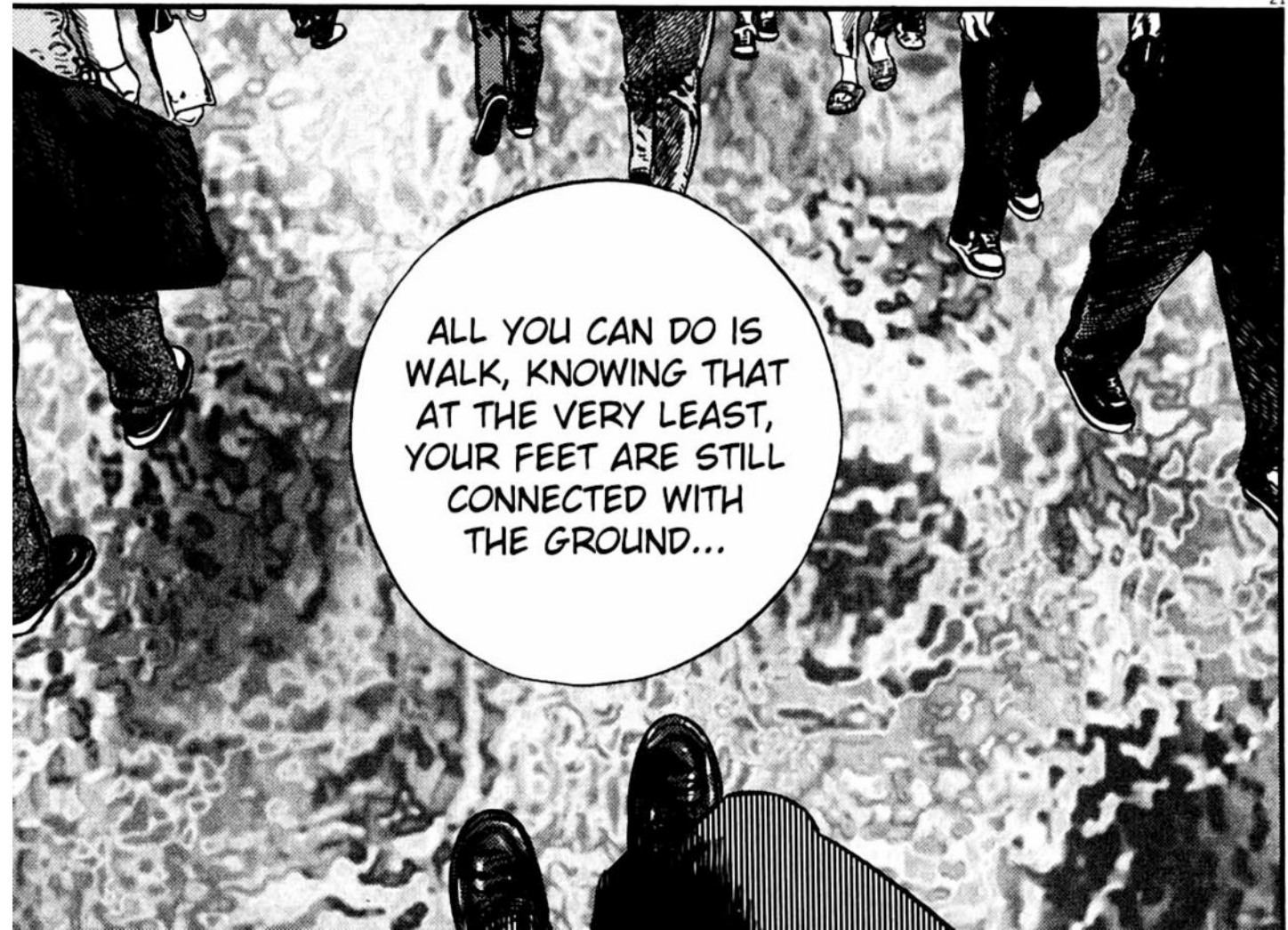
IF YOU CUT
OFF EVERYTHING
AROUND YOU AND
LOOK DOWN AT
YOUR FEET
LIKE THAT,

AND WON'T
EVEN BE ABLE
TO TELL WHETHER
YOU STILL EXIST...



BUT YOU
WON'T BE ABLE
TO MUSTER UP
THE COURAGE TO
LOOK AT YOUR
FULL SELF IN
THE MIRROR...

THEN, YOU'LL
SUDDENLY GET
WORRIED ABOUT
WHETHER OR NOT
YOU STILL EXIST,
AND WANT TO LOOK
AT YOURSELF FOR
CONFIRMATION,

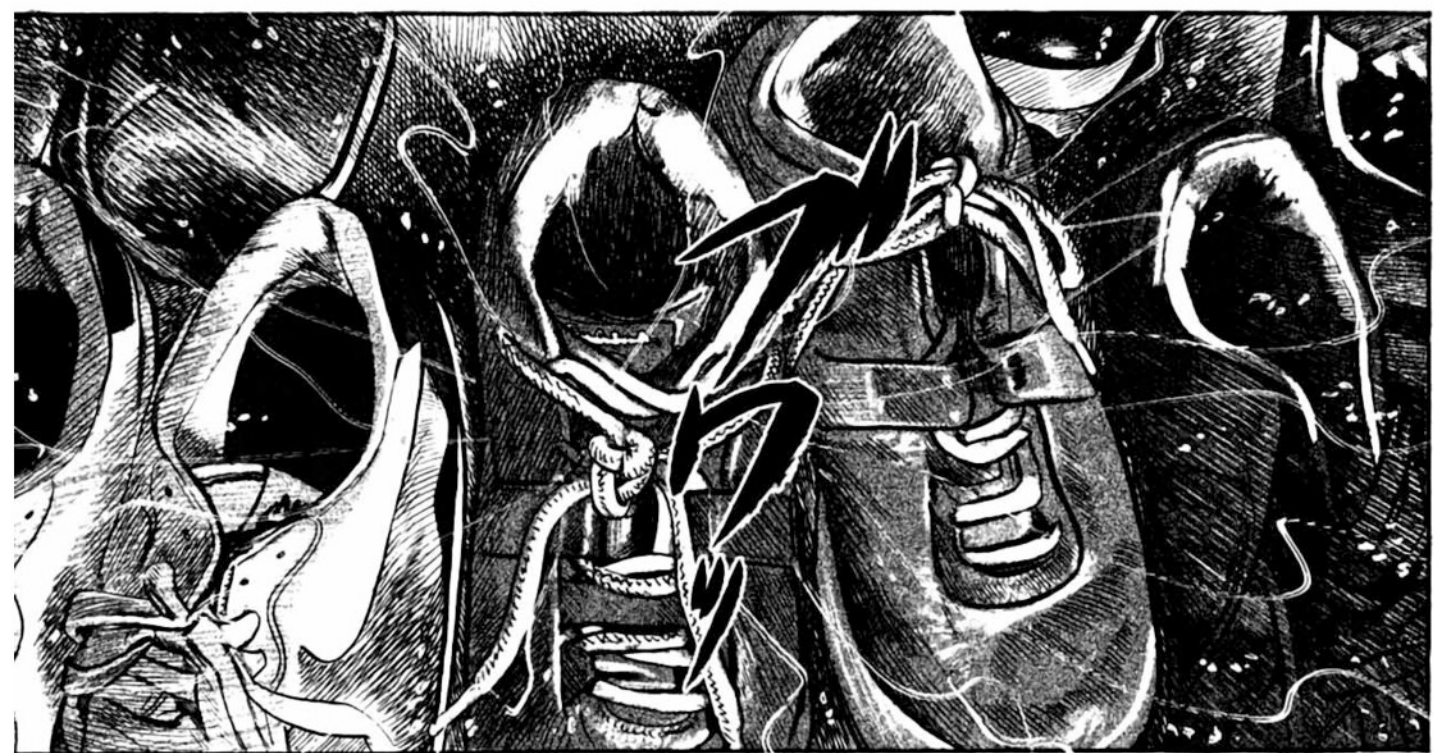


ALL YOU CAN DO IS
WALK, KNOWING THAT
AT THE VERY LEAST,
YOUR FEET ARE STILL
CONNECTED WITH
THE GROUND...





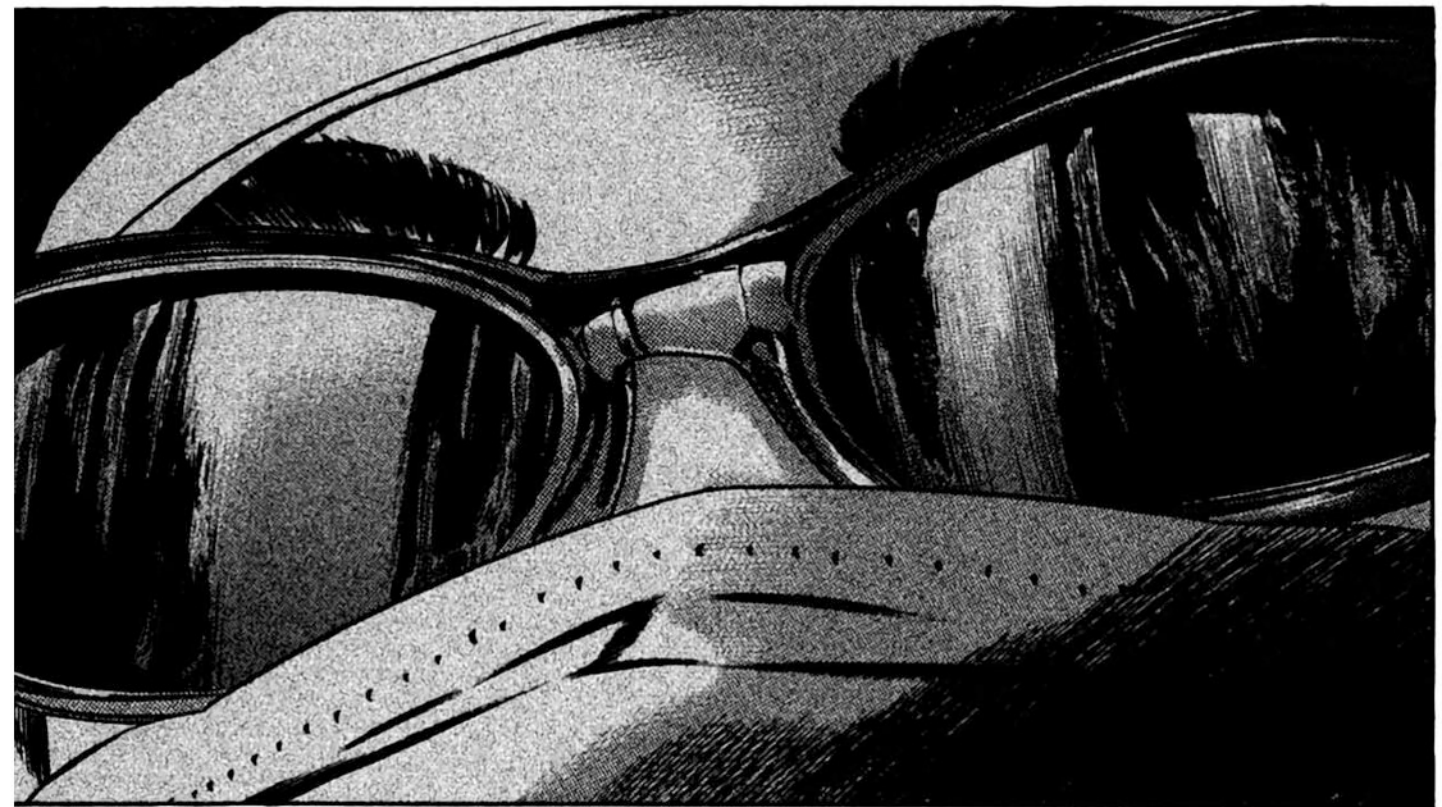






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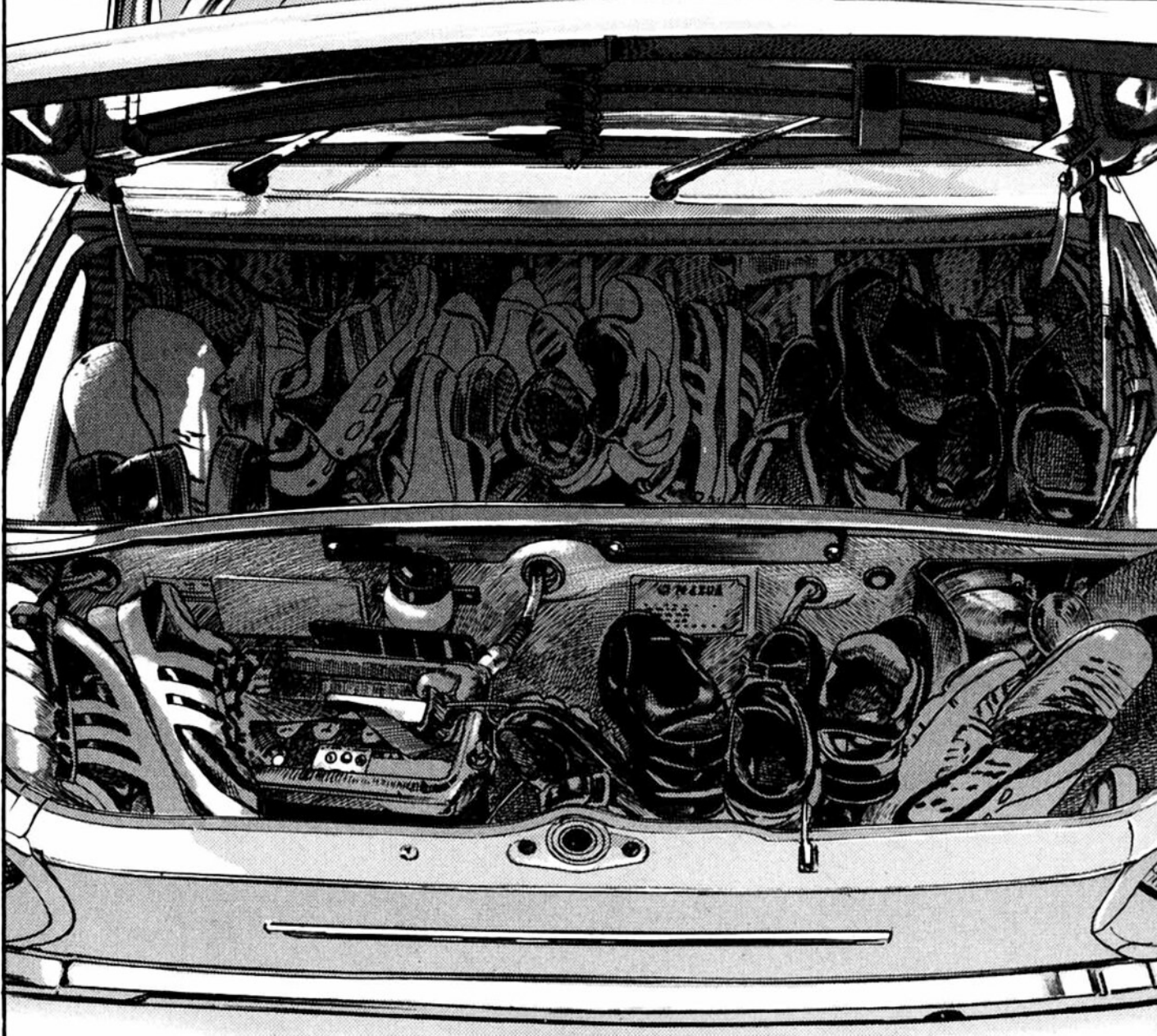


28





30







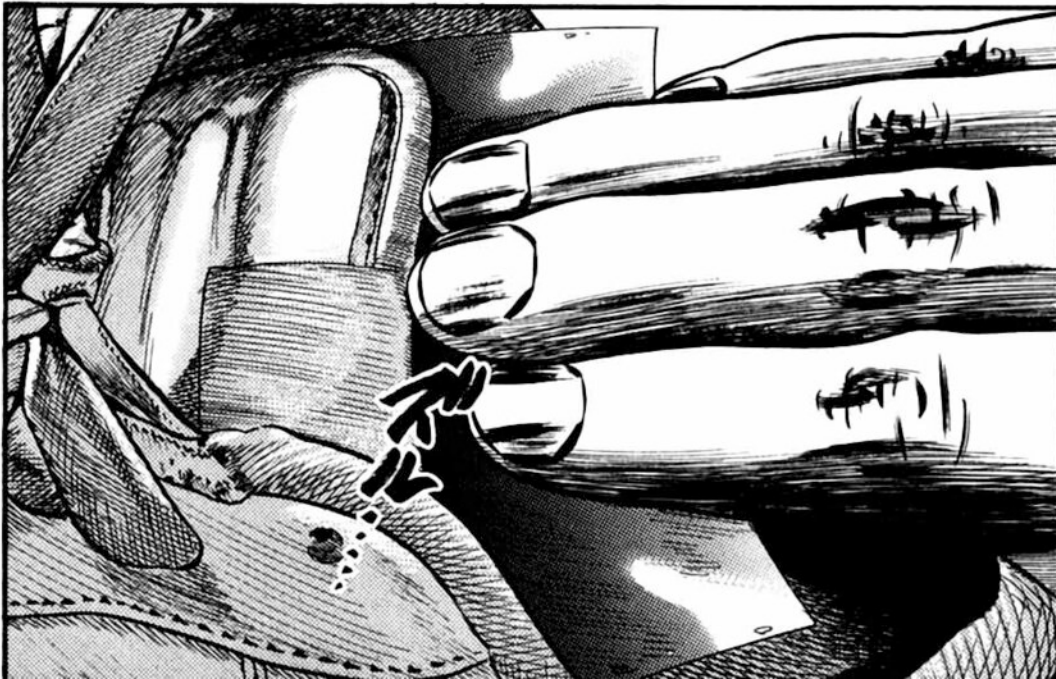
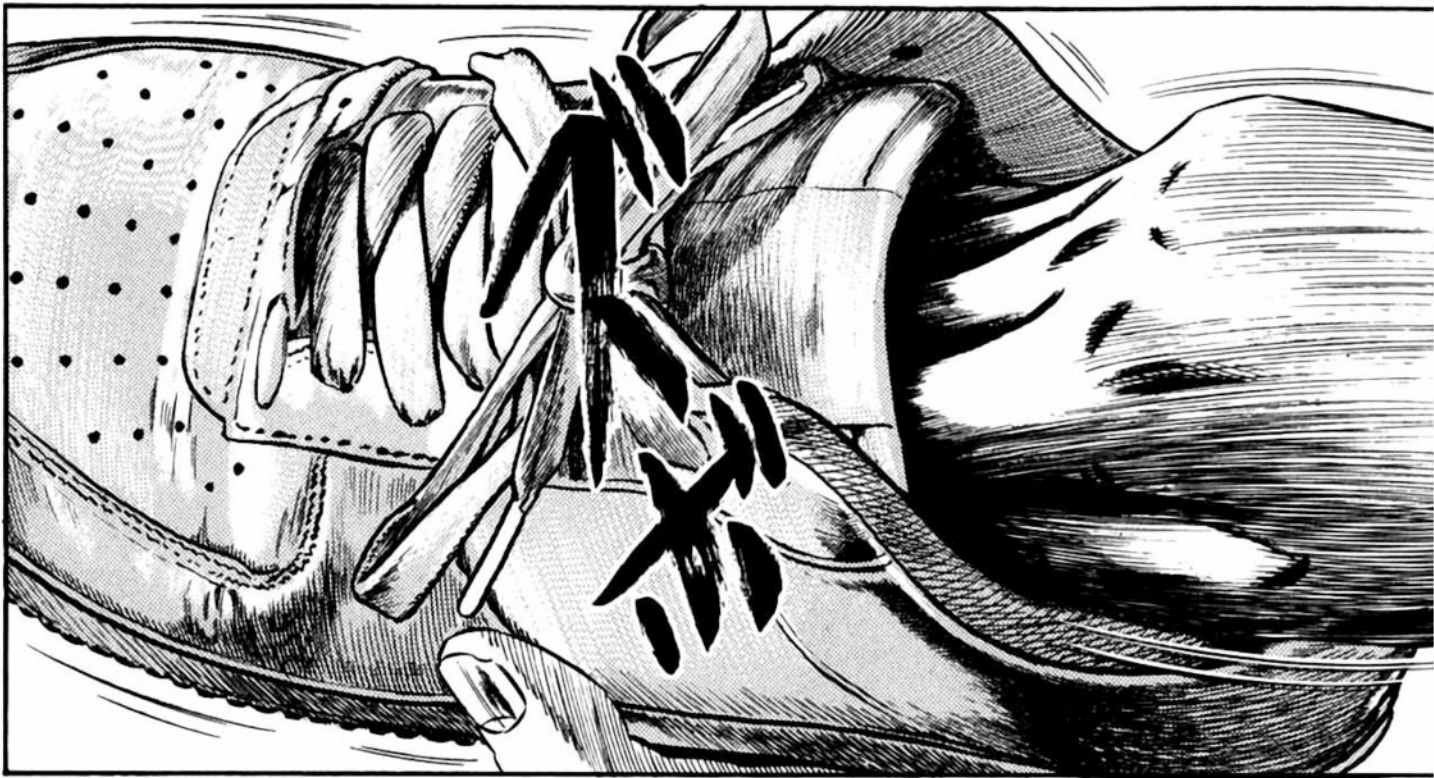


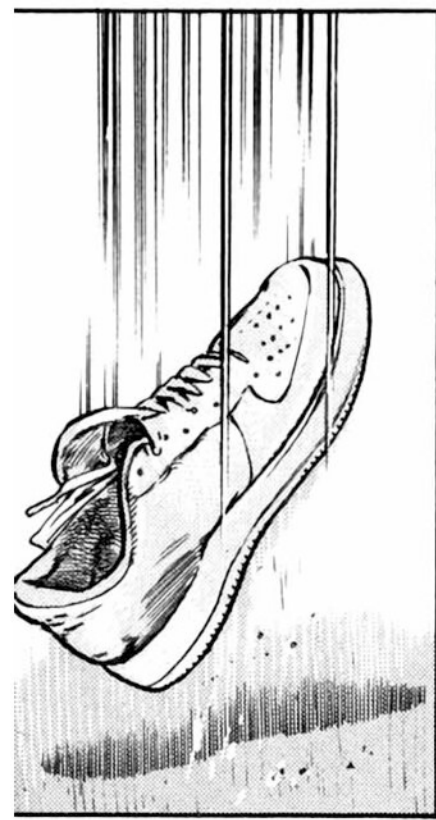
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BOY DO
THESE
STINK.



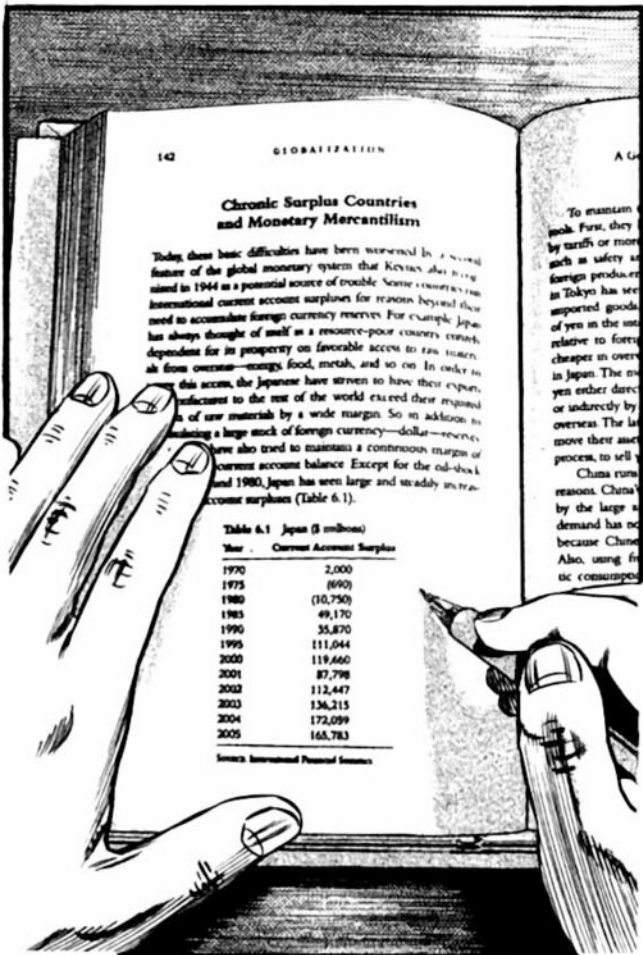
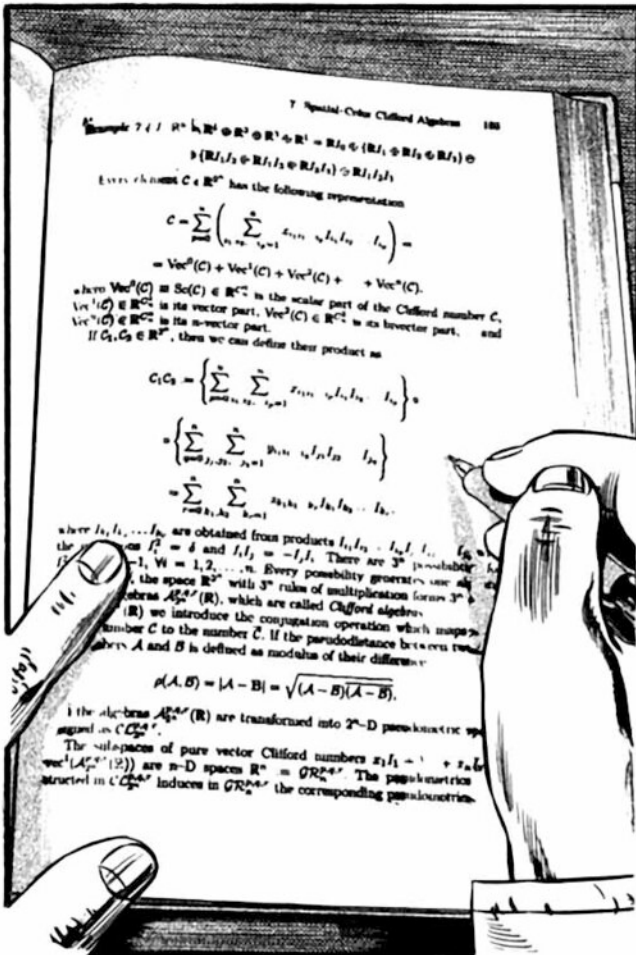






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DID SOMETHING
HAPPEN BEFORE
I CHANGED MY
FACE...?

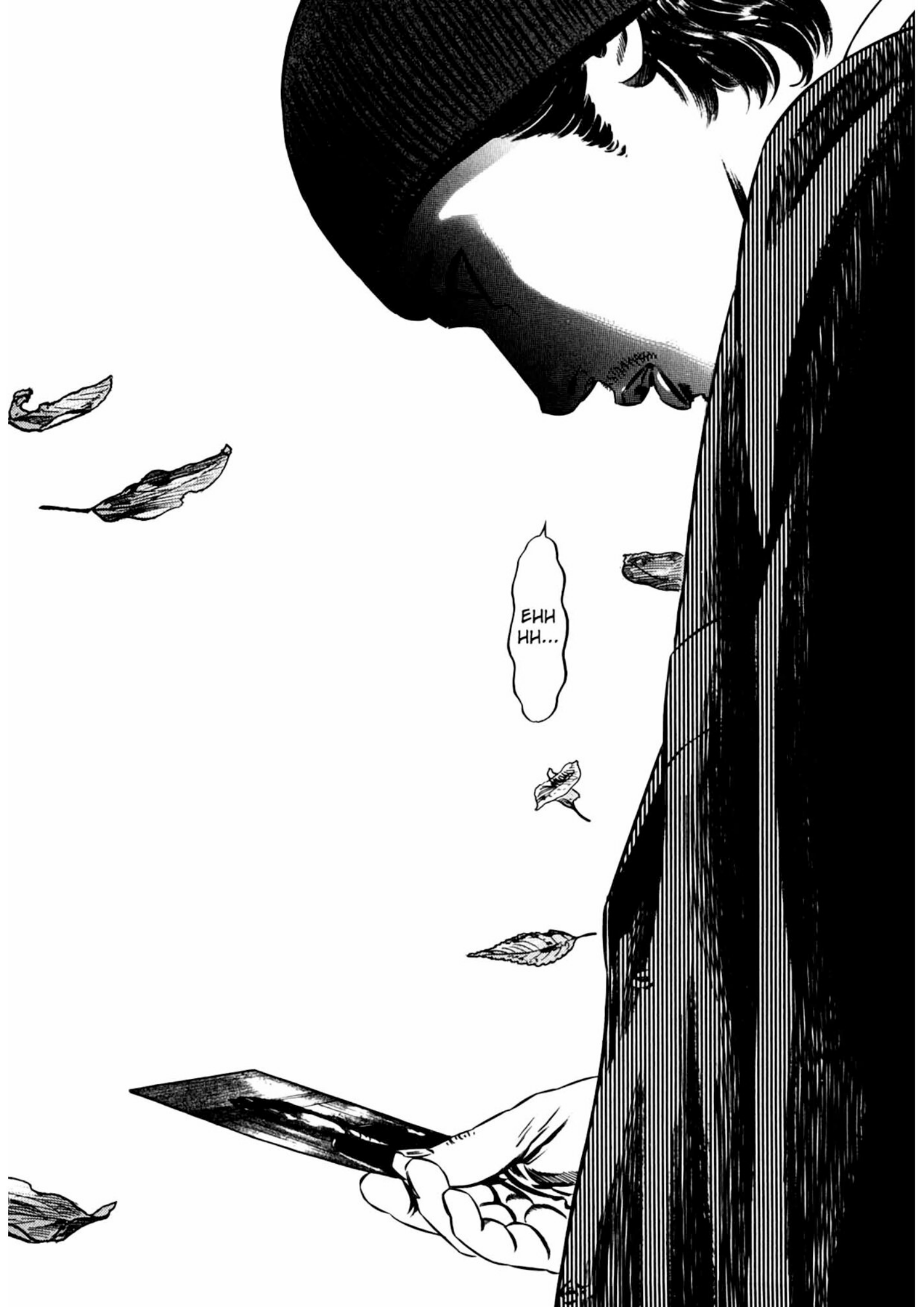
DID I
REALLY FEEL
LIKE I WAS
ALIVE...?

DID THE
REAL ME
EXIST?

NOTHING...





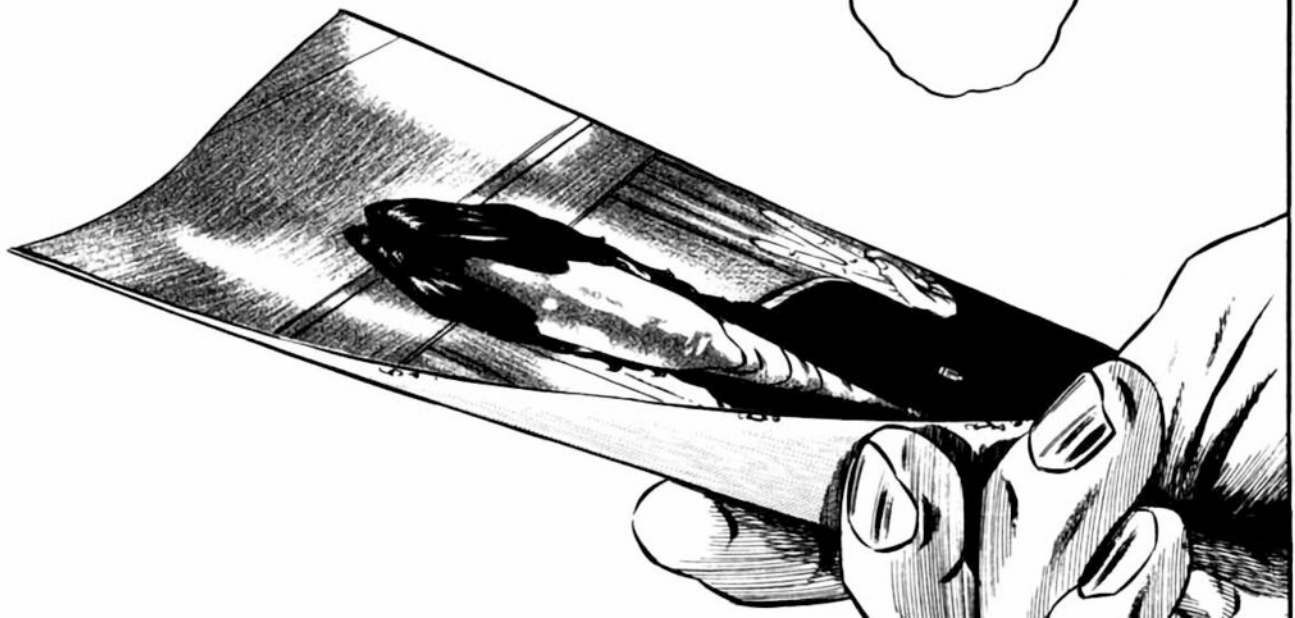


EHH
HH...



THERE WAS
NOTHING...

YOU...





NO FRUSTRATION,

NO TRAUMA,

NO ENJOYMENT,

NO JOY...



IS THAT WHY YOU CHANGED YOUR FACE?



IF YOU ALWAYS WALK LOOKING DOWN... OF COURSE THERE'LL BE NOTHING...



YOU HAD
NOTHING,
AND YET YOU
BLAMED THAT
ON YOUR
FACE...

YOU
THOUGHT IF
YOU CHANGED
YOUR FACE,
SOMETHING
WOULD
HAPPEN...

NOW
LOOK
AT MY
FACE.

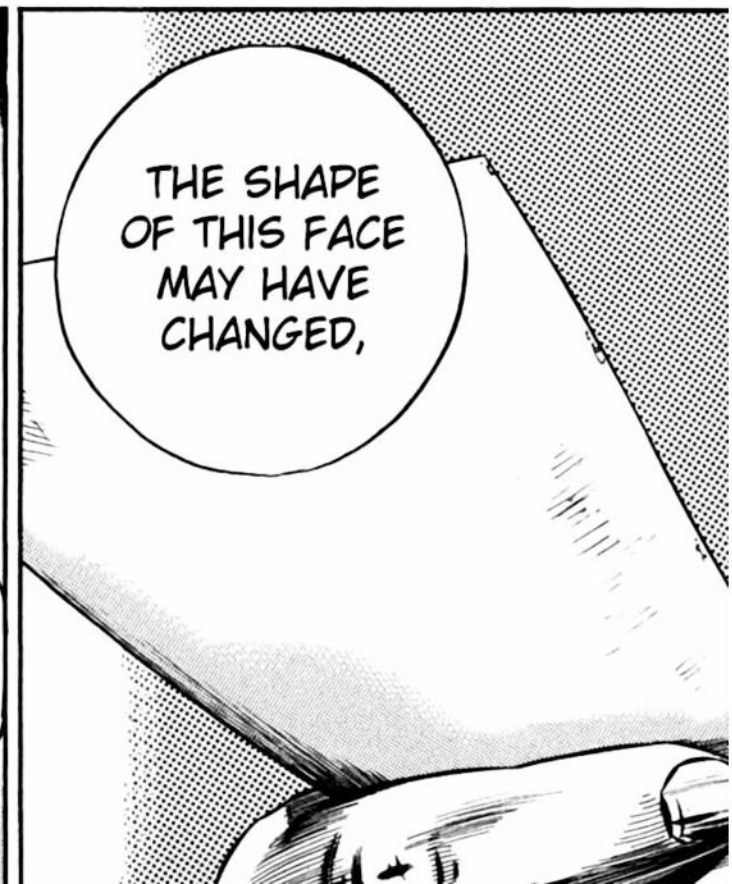


NOTHING'S
CHANGED,
HAS IT?

50



BUT ITS
EXPRESSIONS
HAVEN'T
CHANGED
ONE BIT...



THE SHAPE
OF THIS FACE
MAY HAVE
CHANGED,

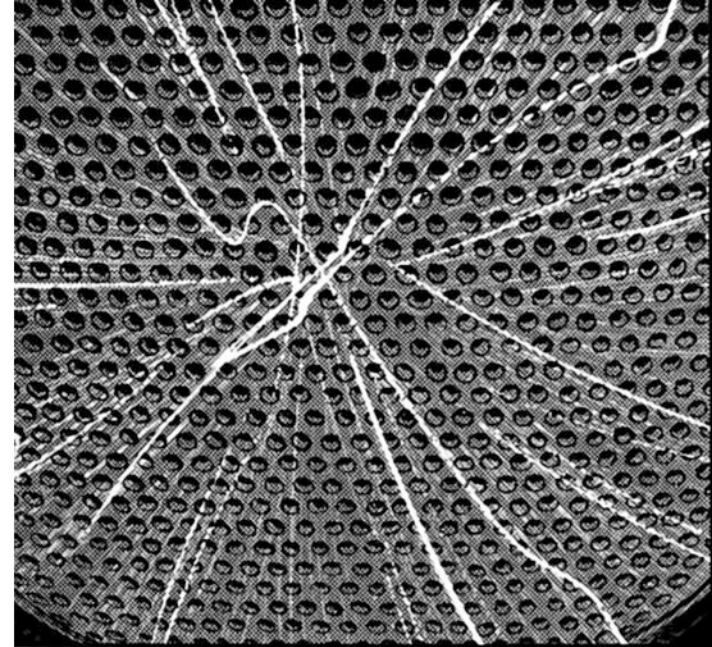




MAYBE I UNDERSTOOD SOMEWHERE.

THAT I WASN'T MOVING FORWARD AT ALL...







LOOK AT
ME MORE,

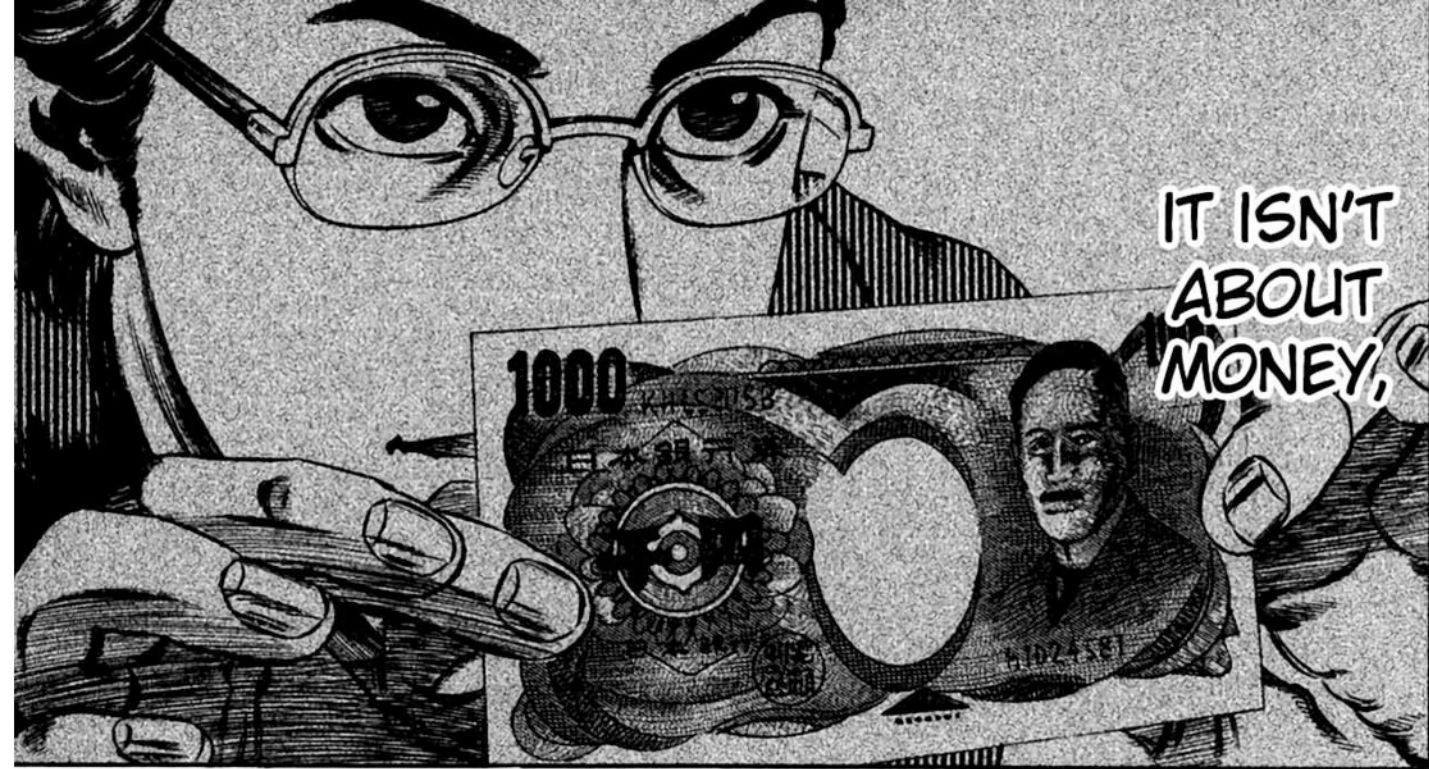


BE INTERESTED.



IT ISN'T ABOUT THE FACE,





IT ISN'T
ABOUT
MONEY,



IT ISN'T
ABOUT
CARS.



MYSELF.

LOOK
AT

A black and white halftone illustration of a vehicle's interior. The view is from the passenger side looking towards the driver's seat. A checkered seat cover is on the driver's seat, with a metal gear shift lever resting on it. The steering wheel is visible on the left. The dashboard and center console are in the background. The text "I EXIST!" is written in a stylized, outlined font on the dashboard area.

I
EXIST!



I
AM NOT AN
INVISIBLE
MAN.



I
AM NOT A
NOPPERA-BO.*

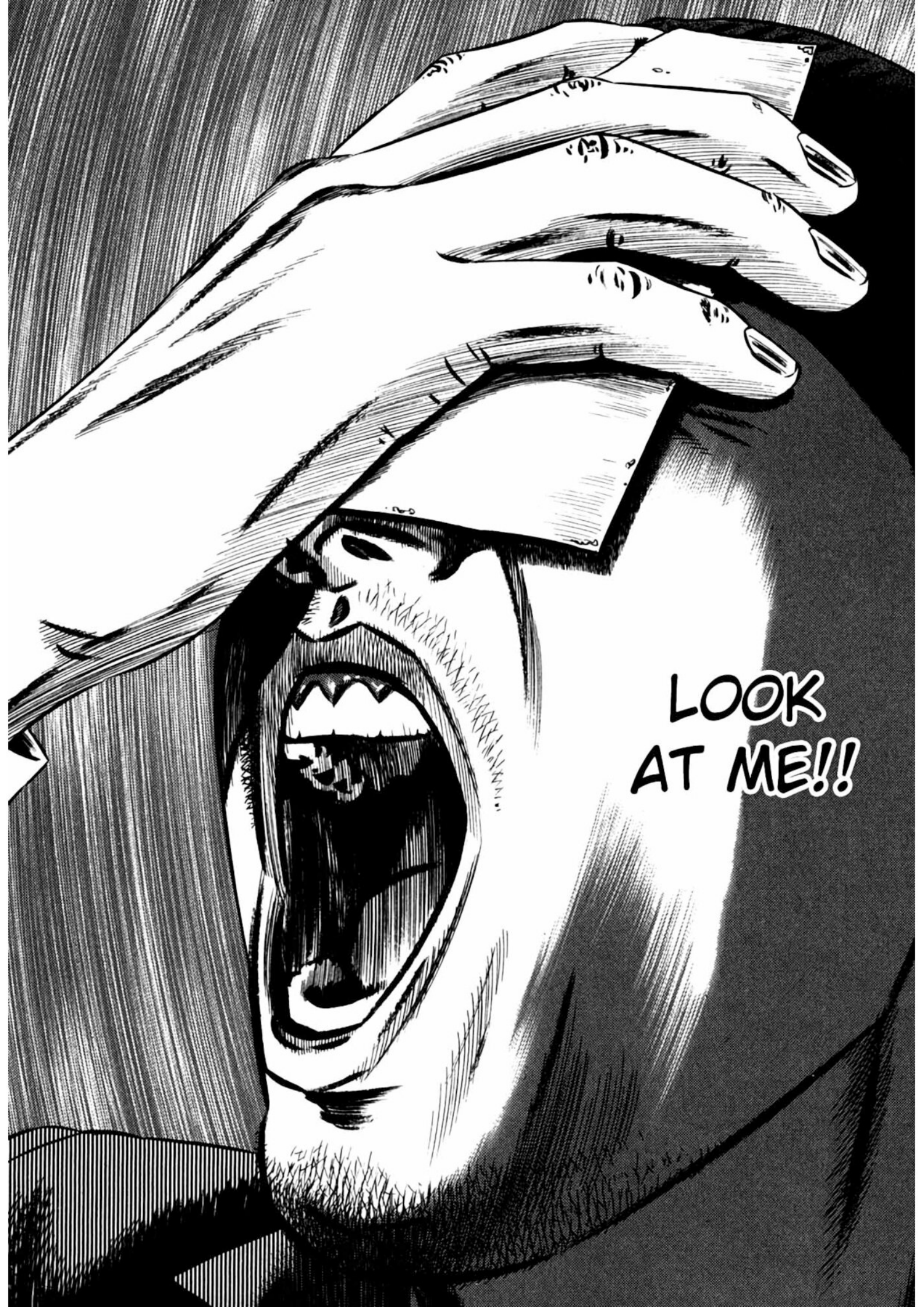
*Check page 231 for more info.



I
AM NOT
ZERO.



I
≠ 0



LOOK
AT ME!!



LOOK
AT ME!



LOOK
AT ME.



LOOK
AT ME!



LOOK
AT ME.

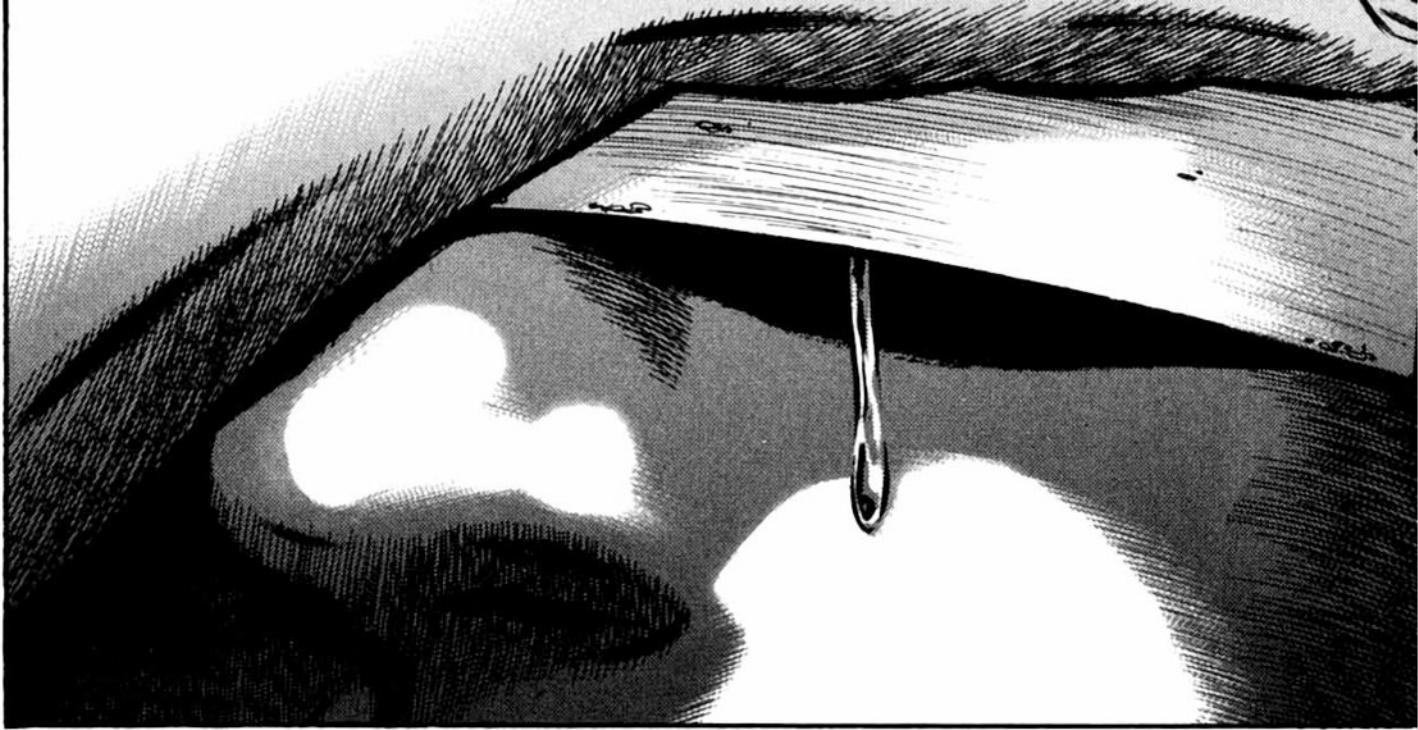


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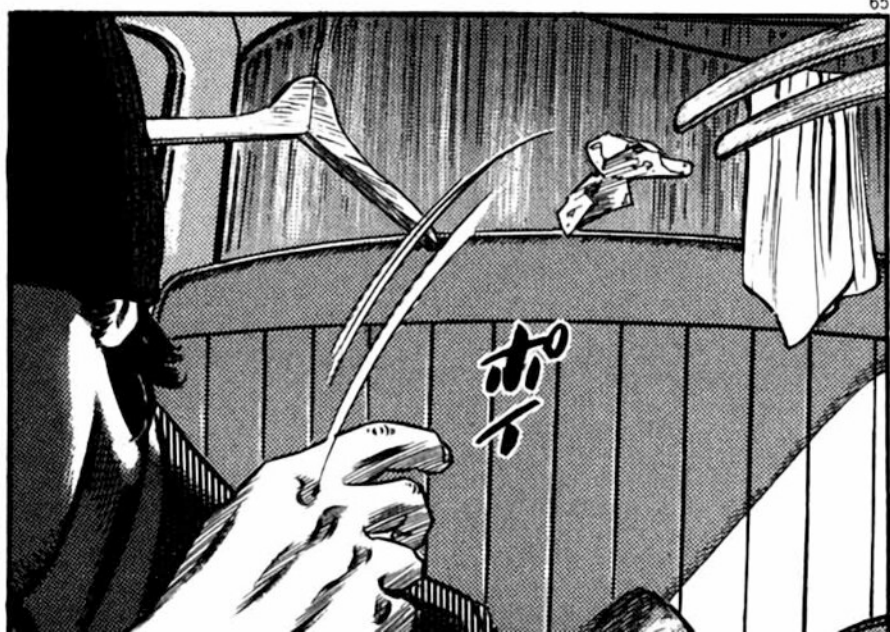
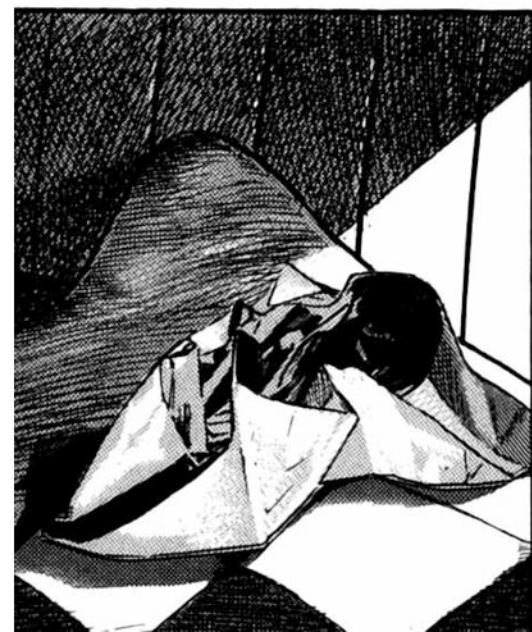
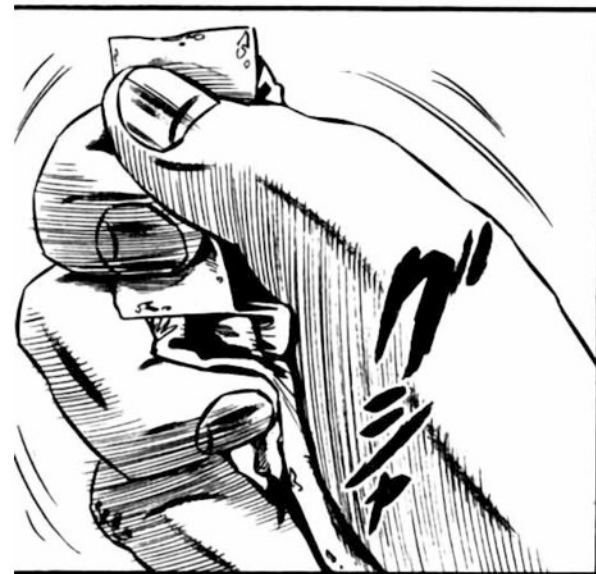


PLEA...
SE...



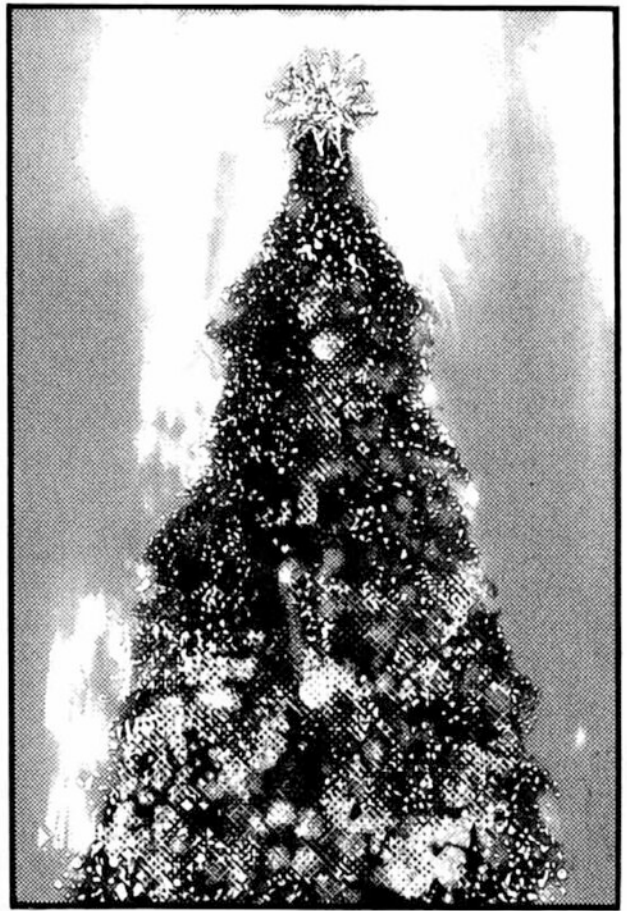
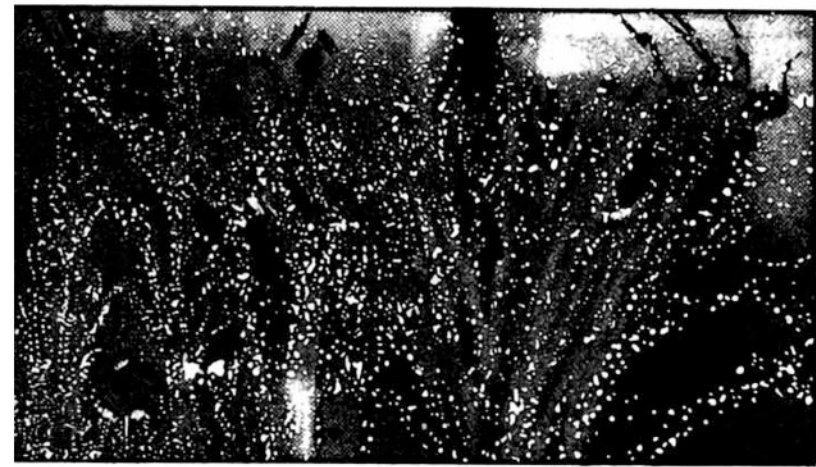
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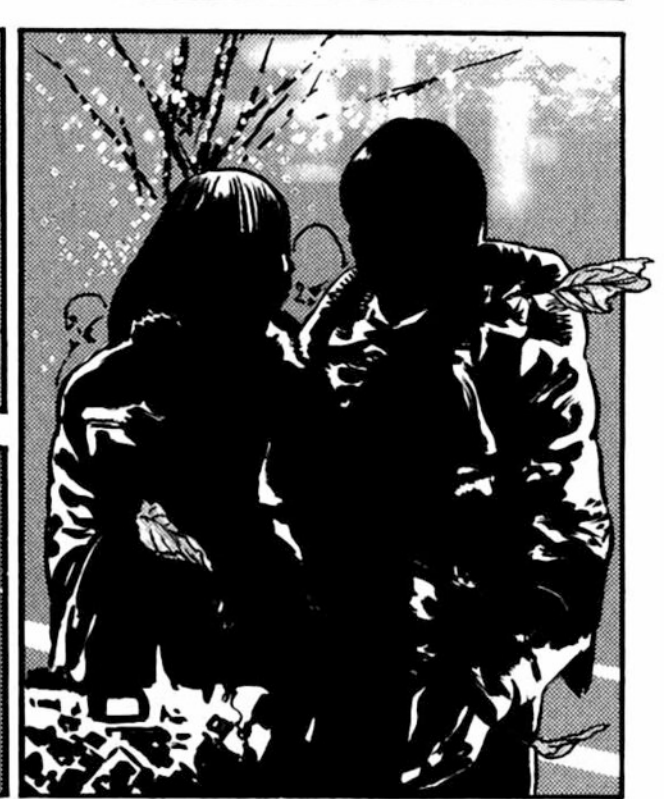
THERE WAS ONE PERSON

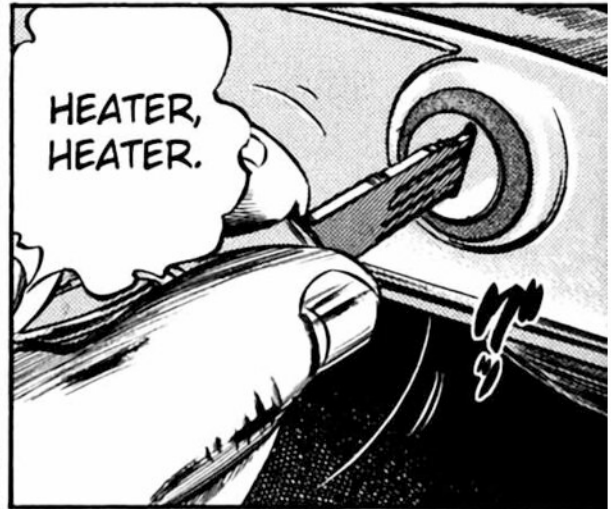
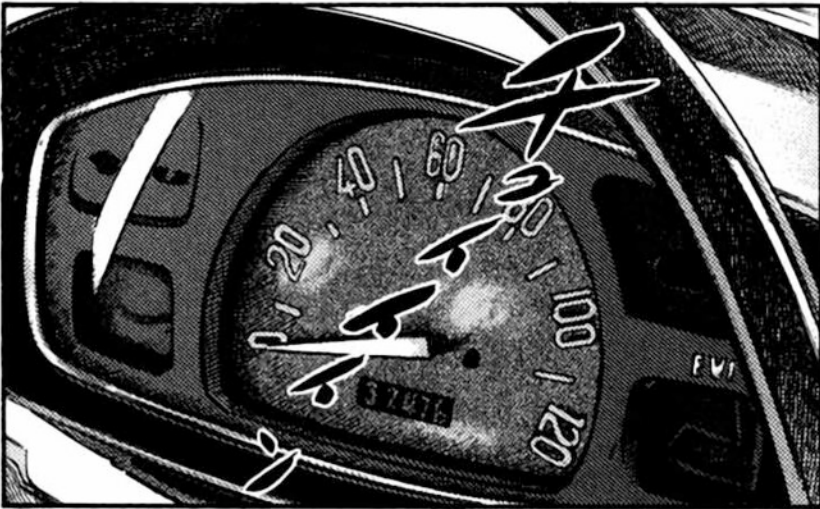
WHO DID LOOK AT ME...





I DIDN'T
NOTICE AT
ALL...





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FUEL

AH...

E 1/2 F

!

CLINK...

I'M
OUTTA
GAS...

OH...

.....





OH
NO...

MY CAR
WON'T...
BE ABLE
TO...

72



KLAK





CAN YOU ROLL DOWN THE WINDOW?

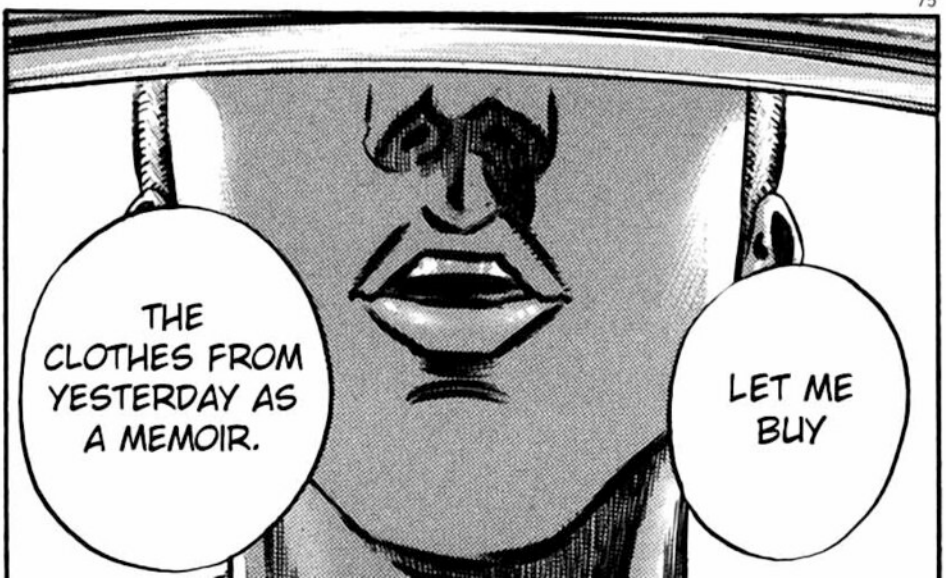
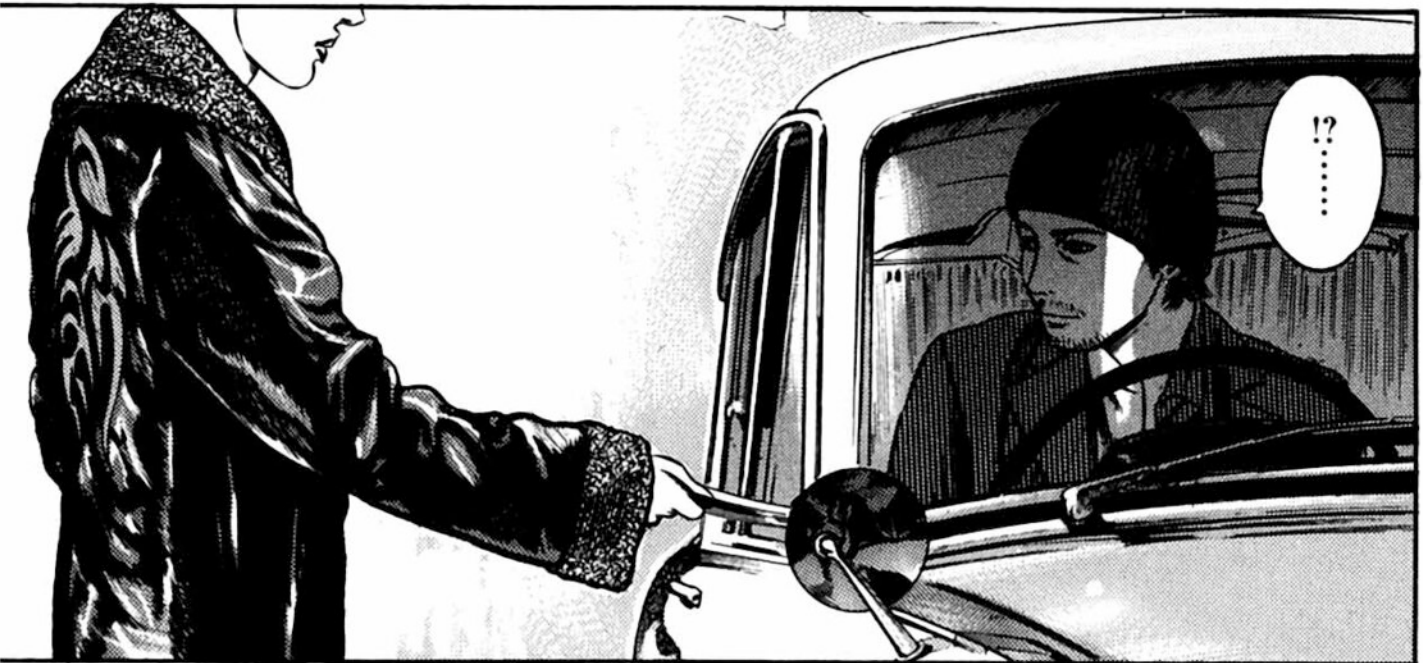
74

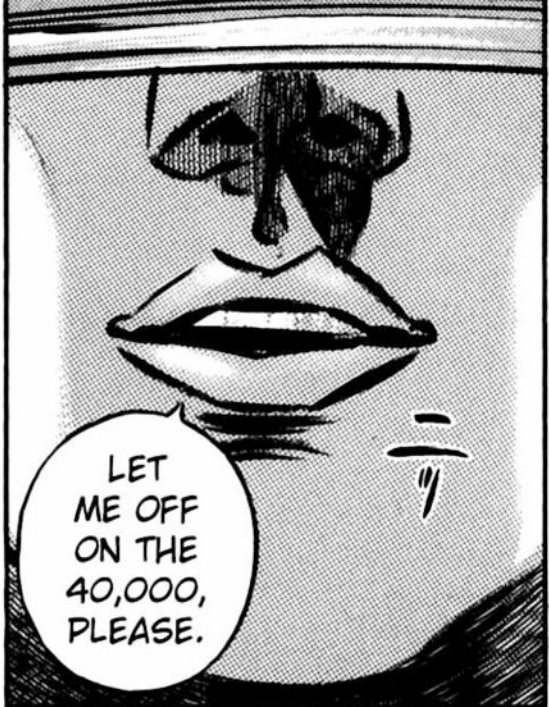


.....



I COME IN PEACE.





LET ME OFF ON THE 40,000, PLEASE.



I DETERMINED THEY COST ABOUT 240,000.

AFTER CHECKING ONLINE,



.....



NOW, HOW ABOUT NOT STAYING ALL SHUT UP IN YOUR CAR AND TAKING A WALK OR SOMETHING?









?

"A PARK
IN WINTER"
IS NICE,
ISN'T IT?"



OFTEN
MAKING ONE FEEL
LIKE THEY HAVE NO
IDEA WHERE THEY
ACTUALLY ARE...

IN A
SPACIOUS PARK
LIKE THIS,
THE WALL
OF GREENERY
ACTS LIKE A
LABYRINTH,

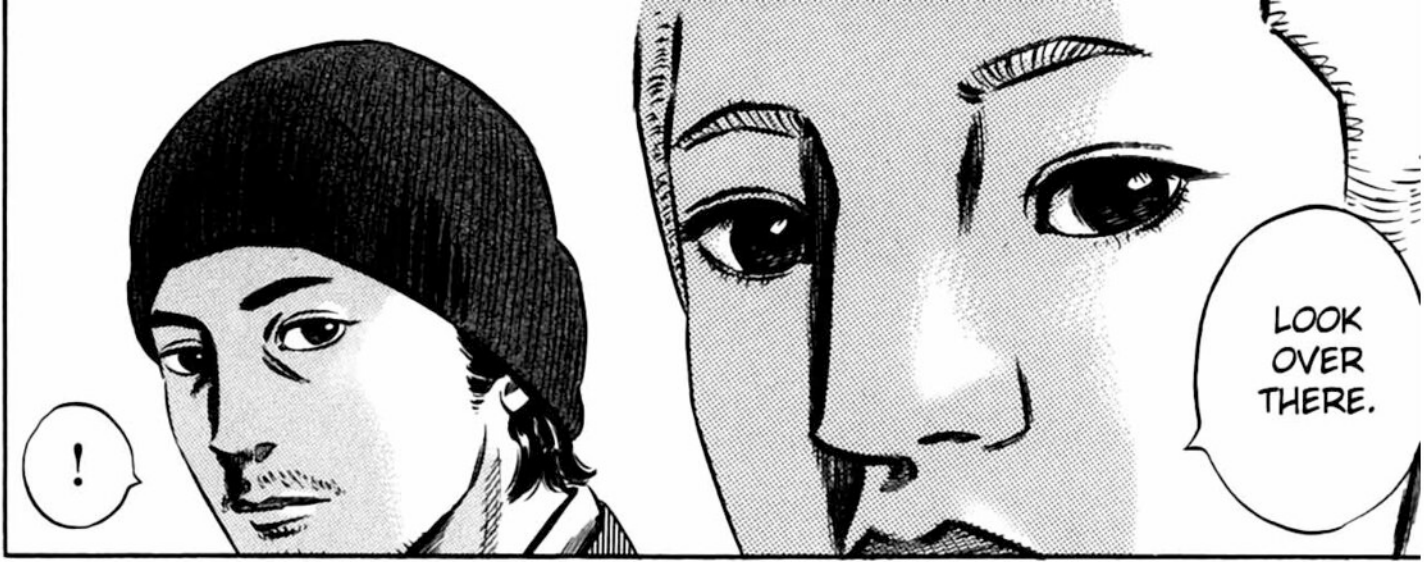


"A PARK IN
SUMMER,"

IS FULL OF
OVERGROWN
TREES AND
GREENERY...



.....
?



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APPARENTLY,
WHEN I WAS IN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL, I KEPT
A GUPPY.



!



SO
YOU
DID
HAVE
ONE...

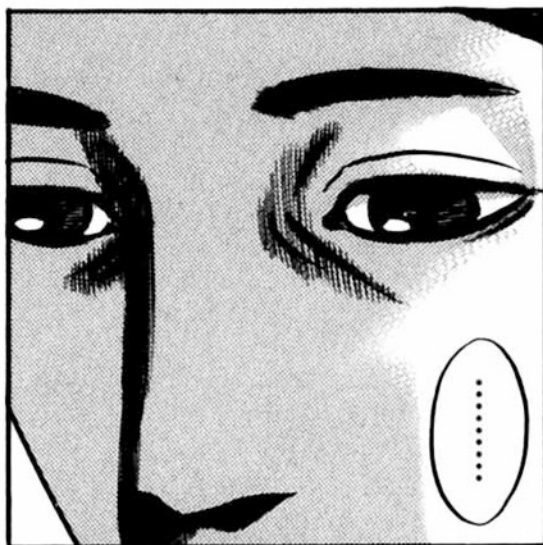


OH...



AND IT
SEEMS THAT
I LOVED IT
VERY MUCH.

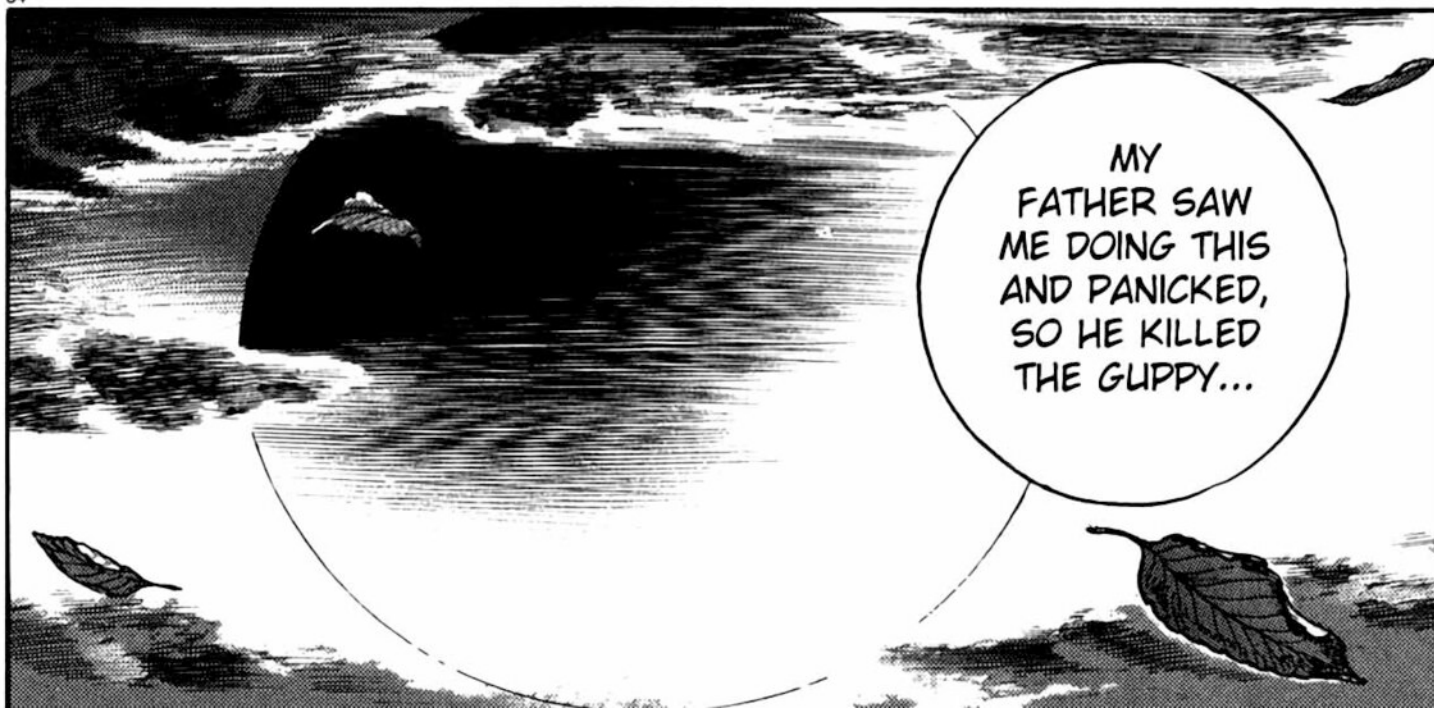
AND I ALSO
SEEM TO HAVE
DRESSED UP IN
GIRLS' CLOTHES
OFTEN.



SEEING THE
GUPPY AS A
SYMBOL OF
BEAUTY,

I MUST HAVE
BEEN COMPARING
IT WITH MYSELF.

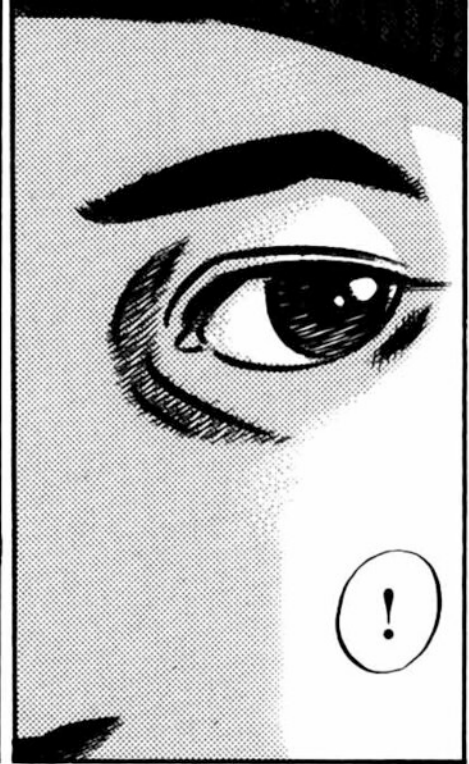
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MY
FATHER SAW
ME DOING THIS
AND PANICKED,
SO HE KILLED
THE GUPPY...



HE
APOLO-
GIZED
TODAY.

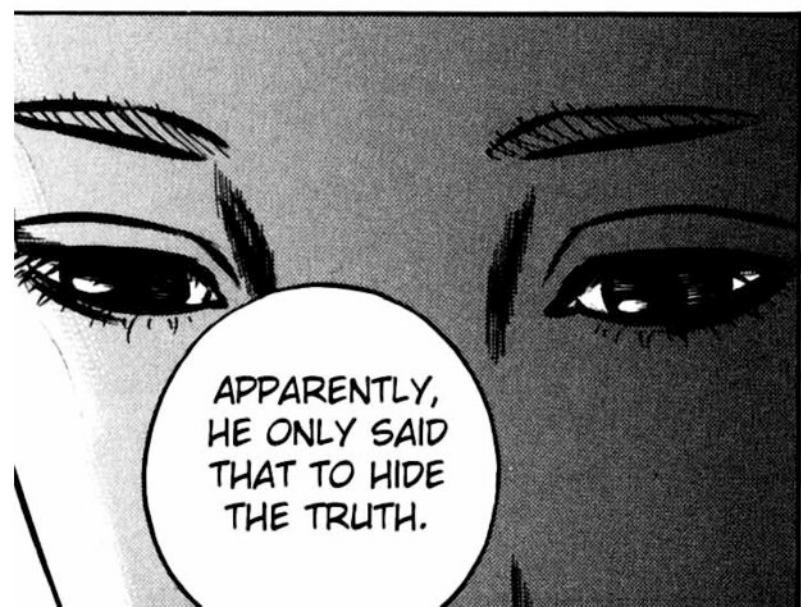


!



!?

IT LOOKS
LIKE MY FATHER
HAS ANOTHER
HALF A YEAR
TO LIVE.

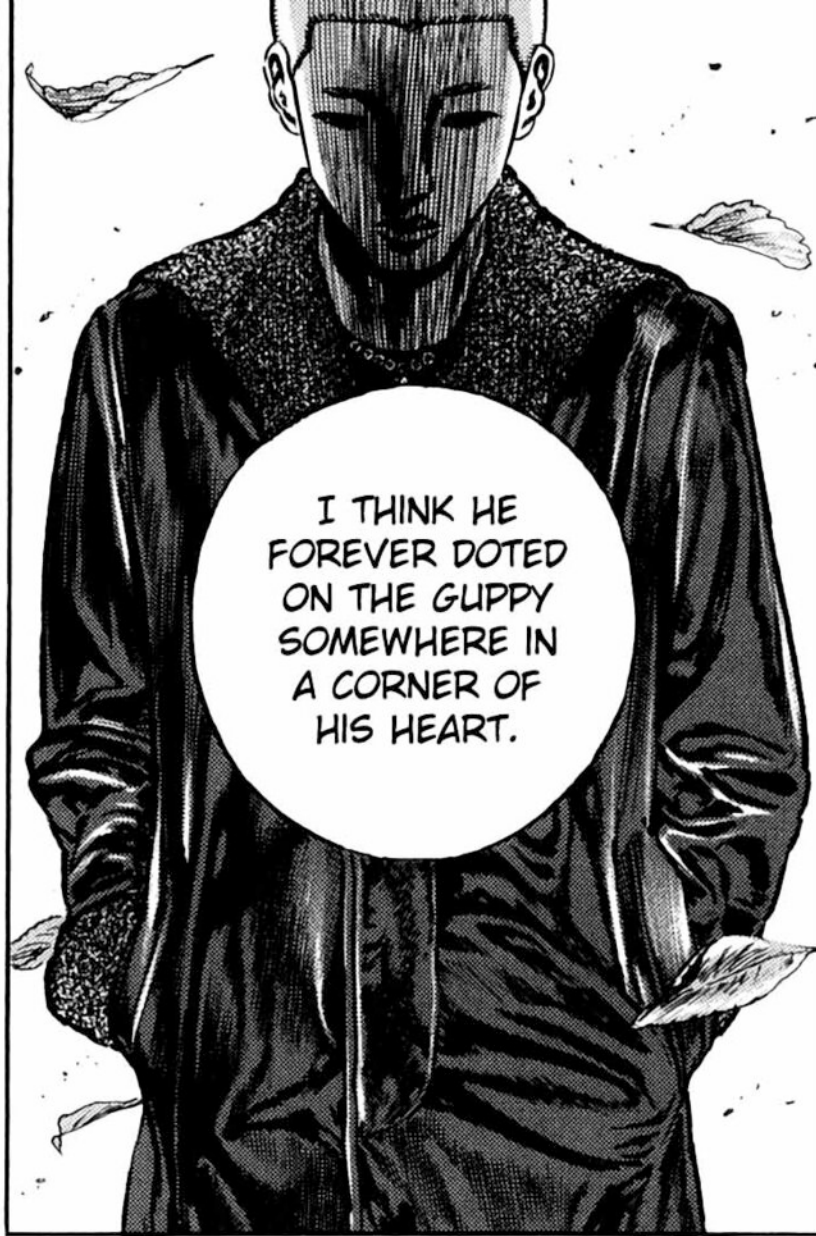


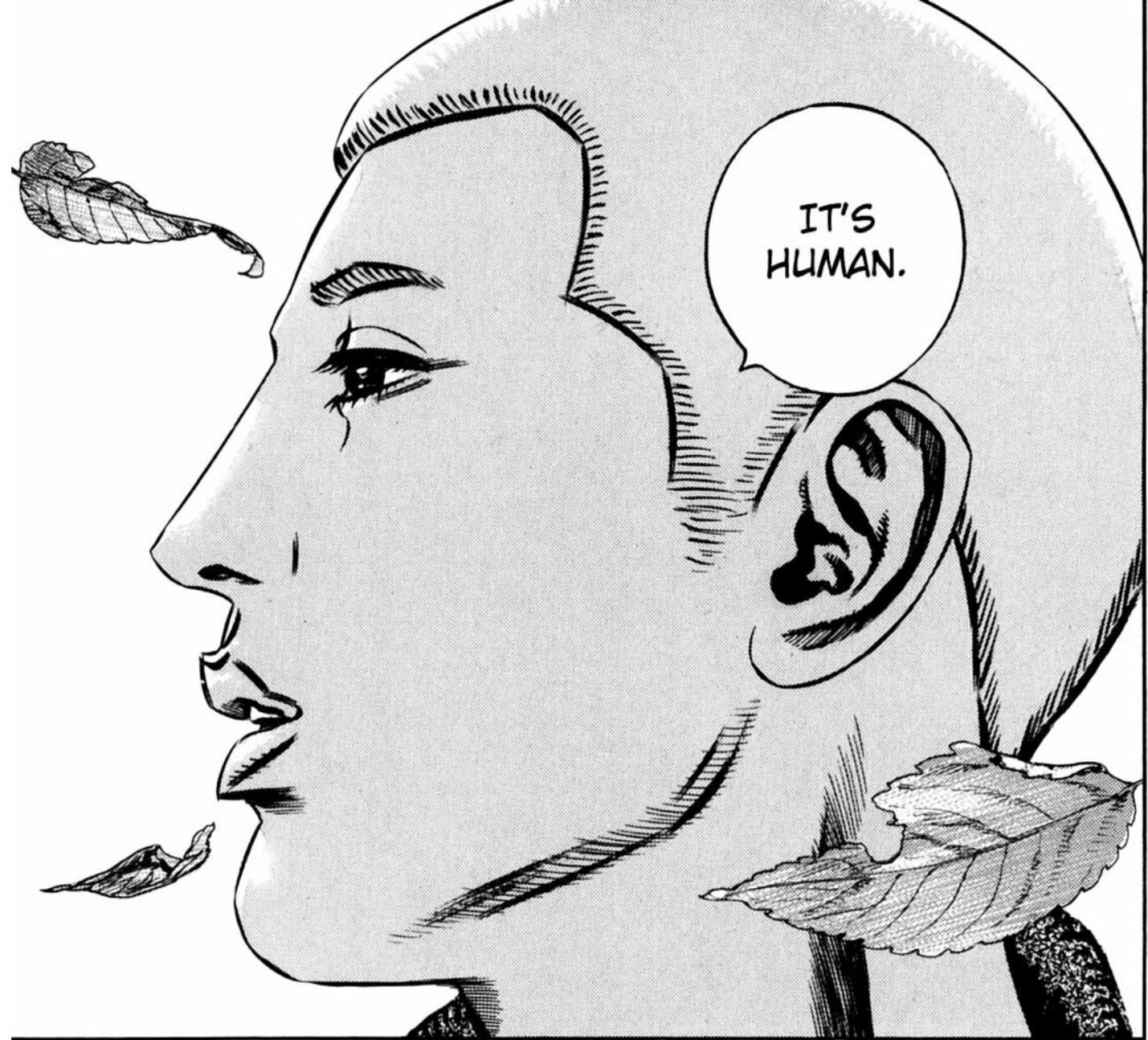
APPARENTLY,
HE ONLY SAID
THAT TO HIDE
THE TRUTH.



BUT I
THOUGHT
HE ONLY
HAD A BONE
FRACTURE...?

EH...



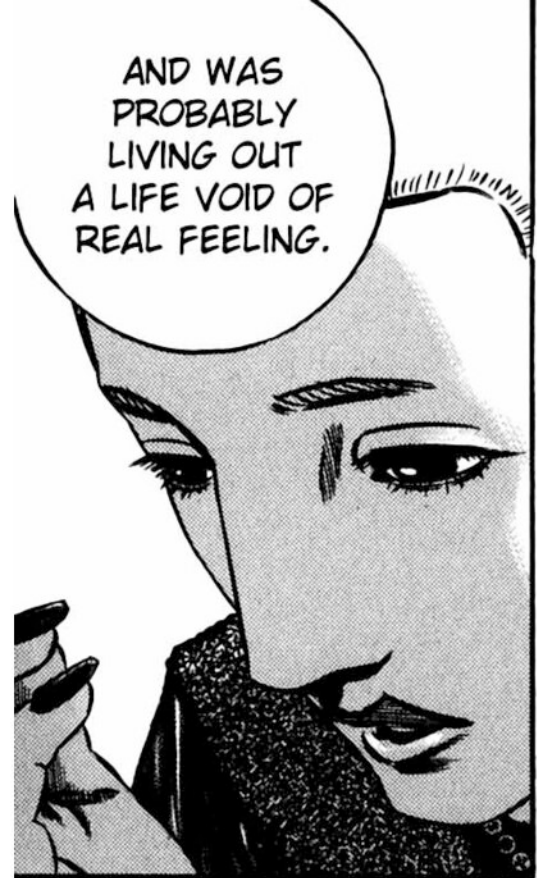


IT'S
HUMAN.



AND THIS MAY
BE THE FIRST
TIME I'VE EVER
SEEN MY FATHER'S
HUMAN QUALITIES.



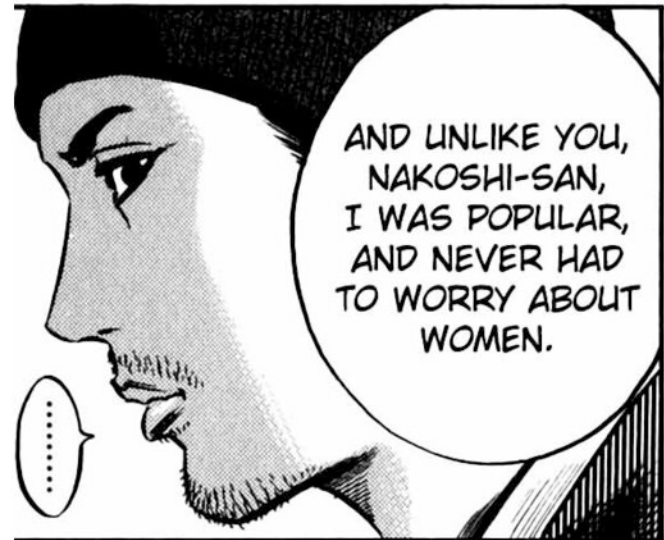


AND WAS
PROBABLY
LIVING OUT
A LIFE VOID OF
REAL FEELING.



JUST LIKE IN
YOUR SKETCH,
I HAD LOST
SIGHT

OF MY
TRUE FORM
WITHIN THE
CASE KNOWN
AS MY
"FATHER."



AND UNLIKE YOU,
NAKOSHI-SAN,
I WAS POPULAR,
AND NEVER HAD
TO WORRY ABOUT
WOMEN.



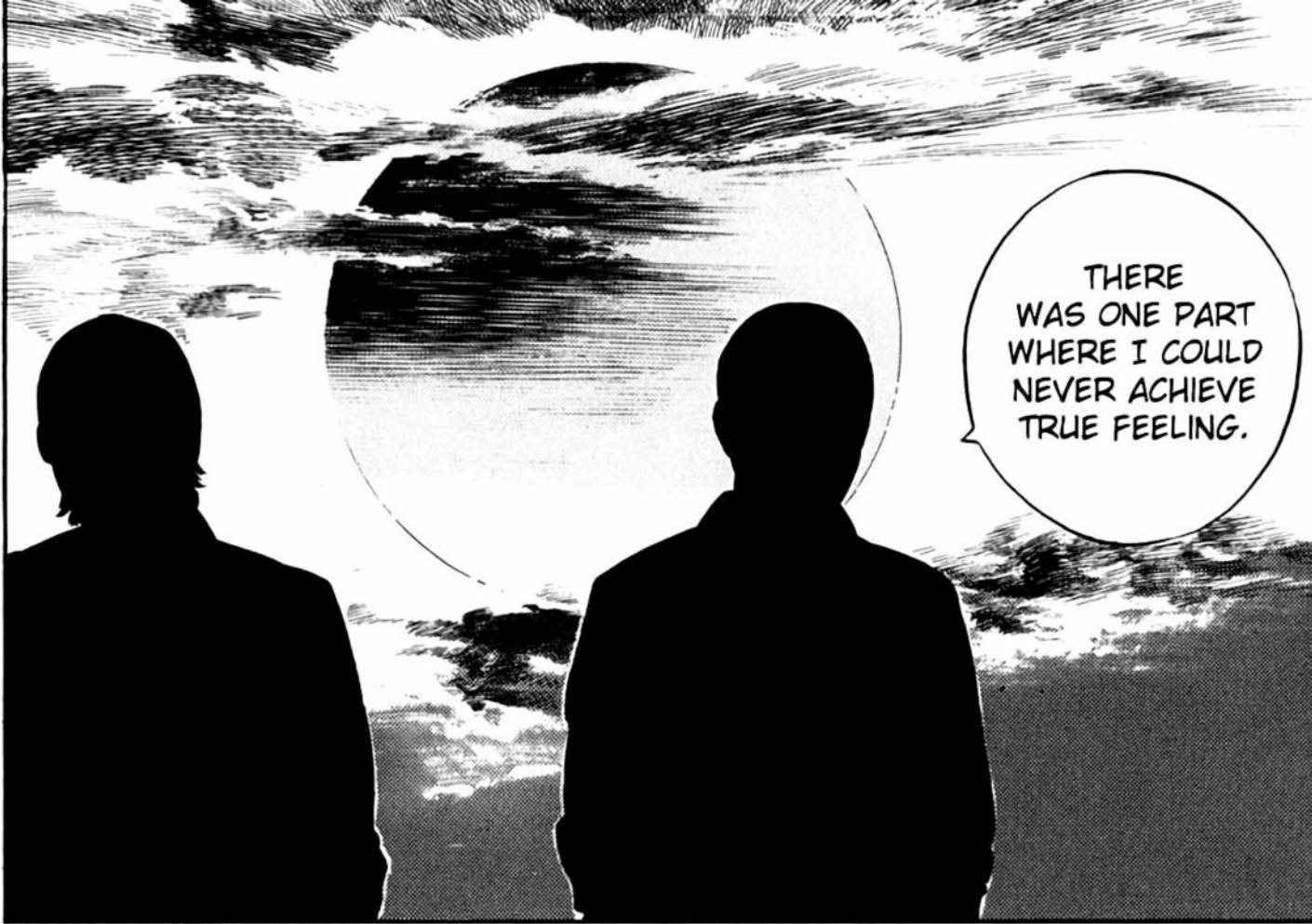
GENERALLY,
I'VE BEEN
BLESSED IN
MY FORM,



I THOUGHT I
WAS LIVING A
LIFE FREE OF
DISCONTENT.



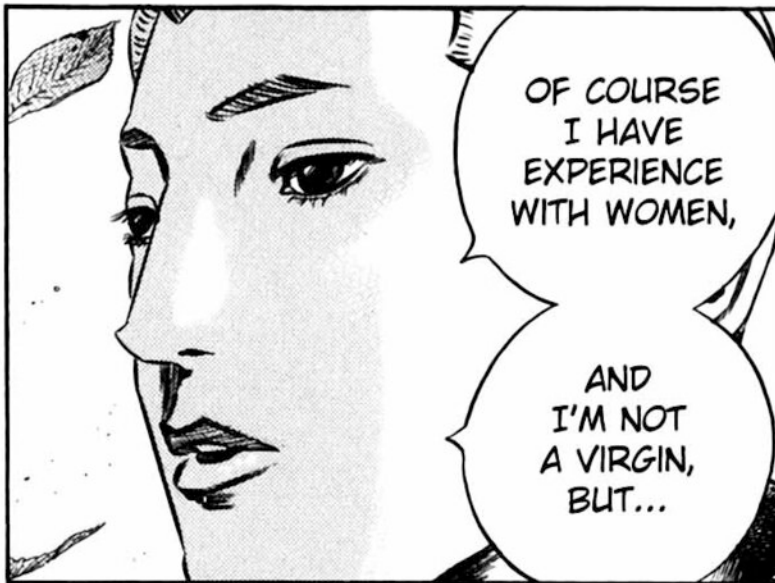
BUT...



THERE WAS ONE PART WHERE I COULD NEVER ACHIEVE TRUE FEELING.



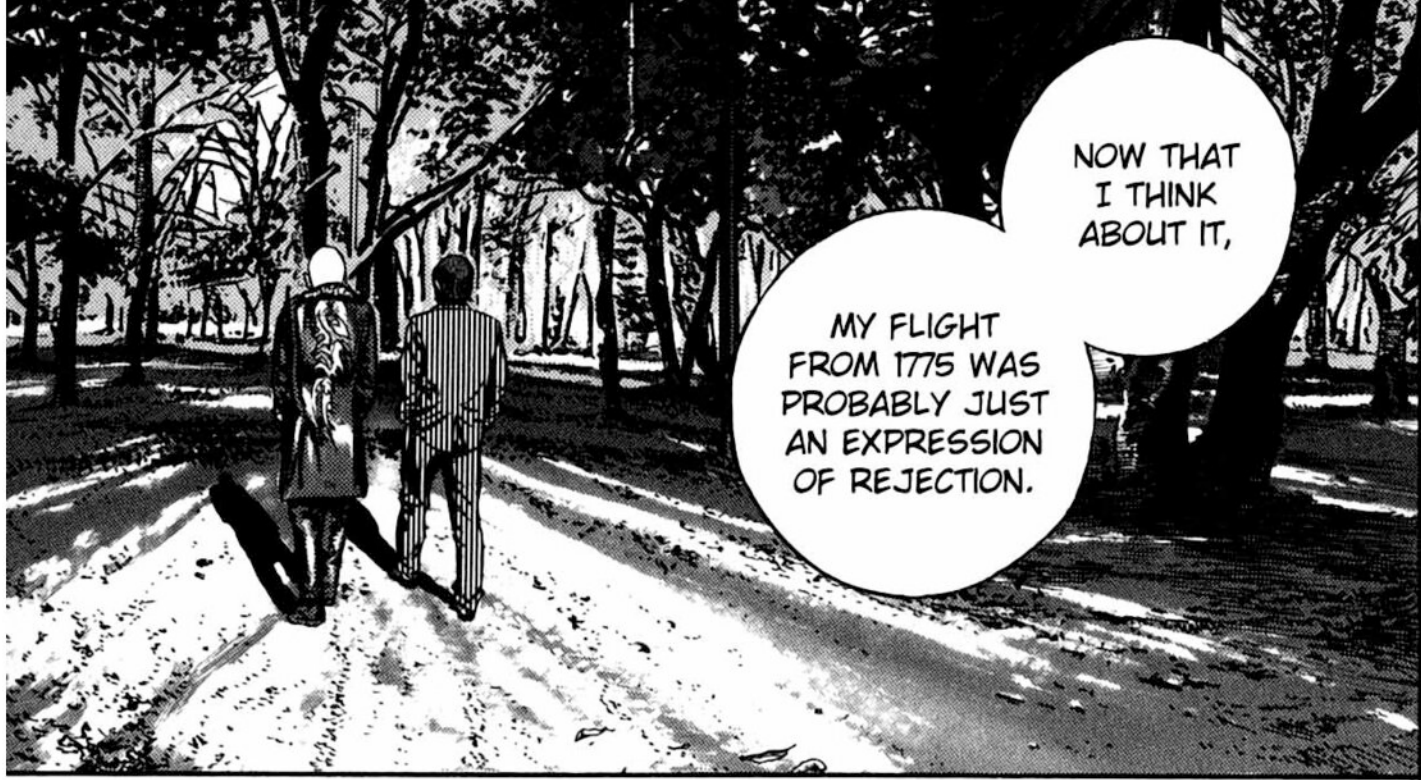
I'VE NEVER EJACULATED DURING INTERCOURSE...



OF COURSE I HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH WOMEN,
AND I'M NOT A VIRGIN, BUT...



SO YOU COULD SAY I'M A CUM VIRGIN.



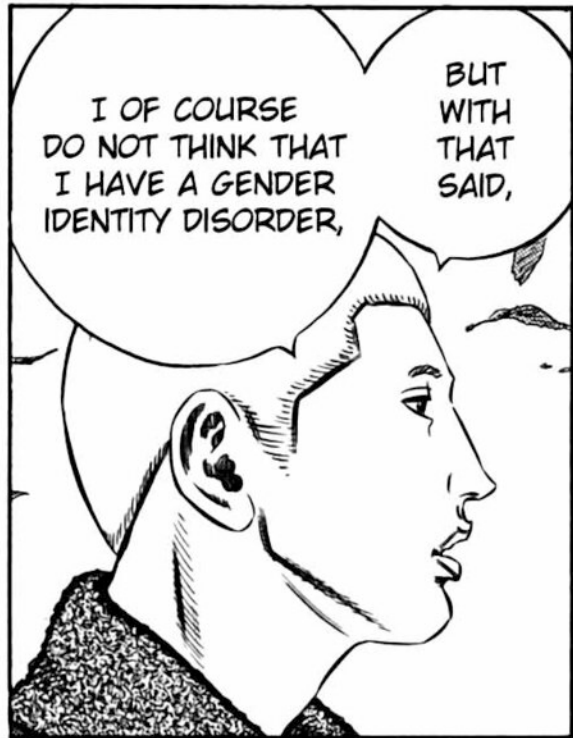
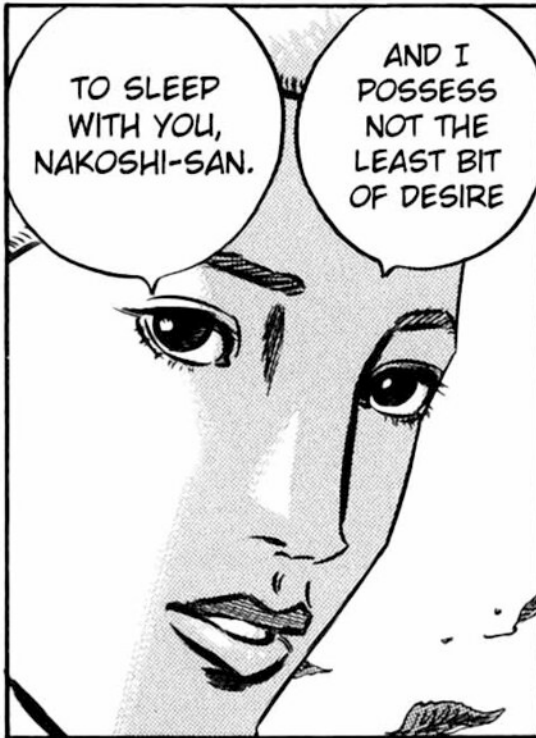
NOW THAT
I THINK
ABOUT IT,

MY FLIGHT
FROM 1775 WAS
PROBABLY JUST
AN EXPRESSION
OF REJECTION.



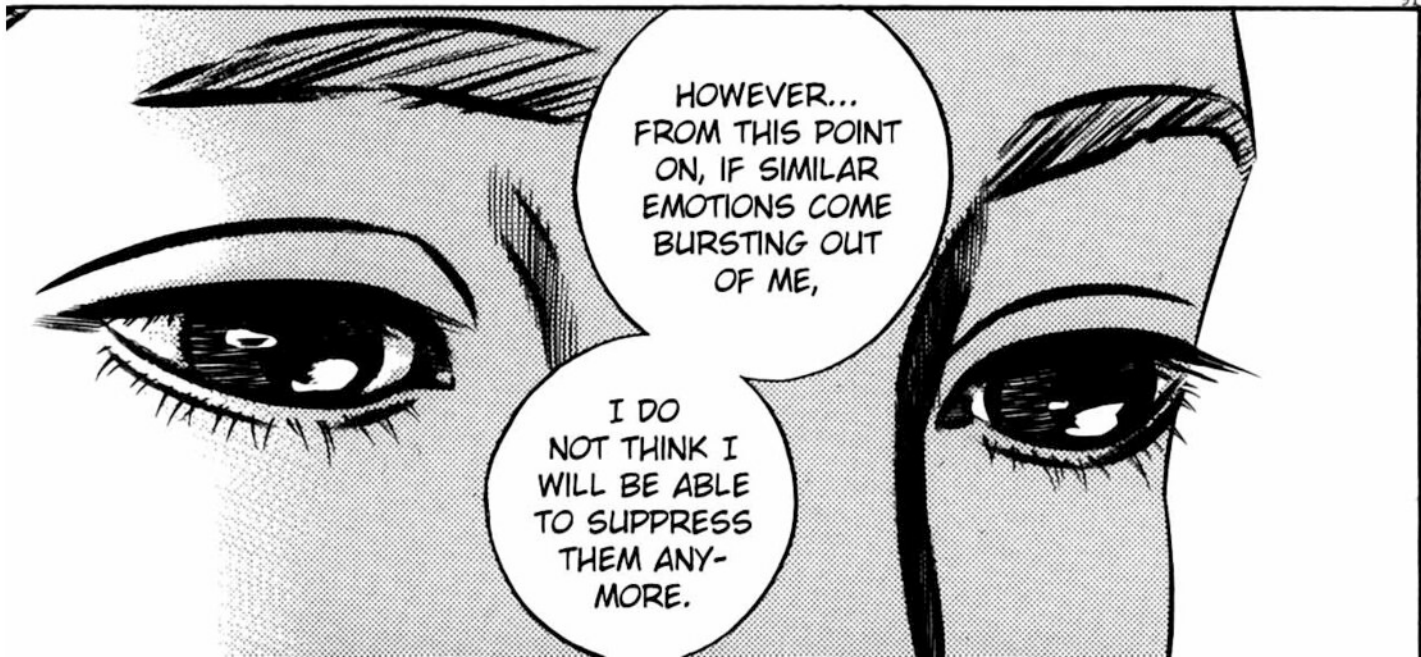
TO SLEEP
WITH YOU,
NAKOSHI-SAN.

AND I
POSSESS
NOT THE
LEAST BIT
OF DESIRE



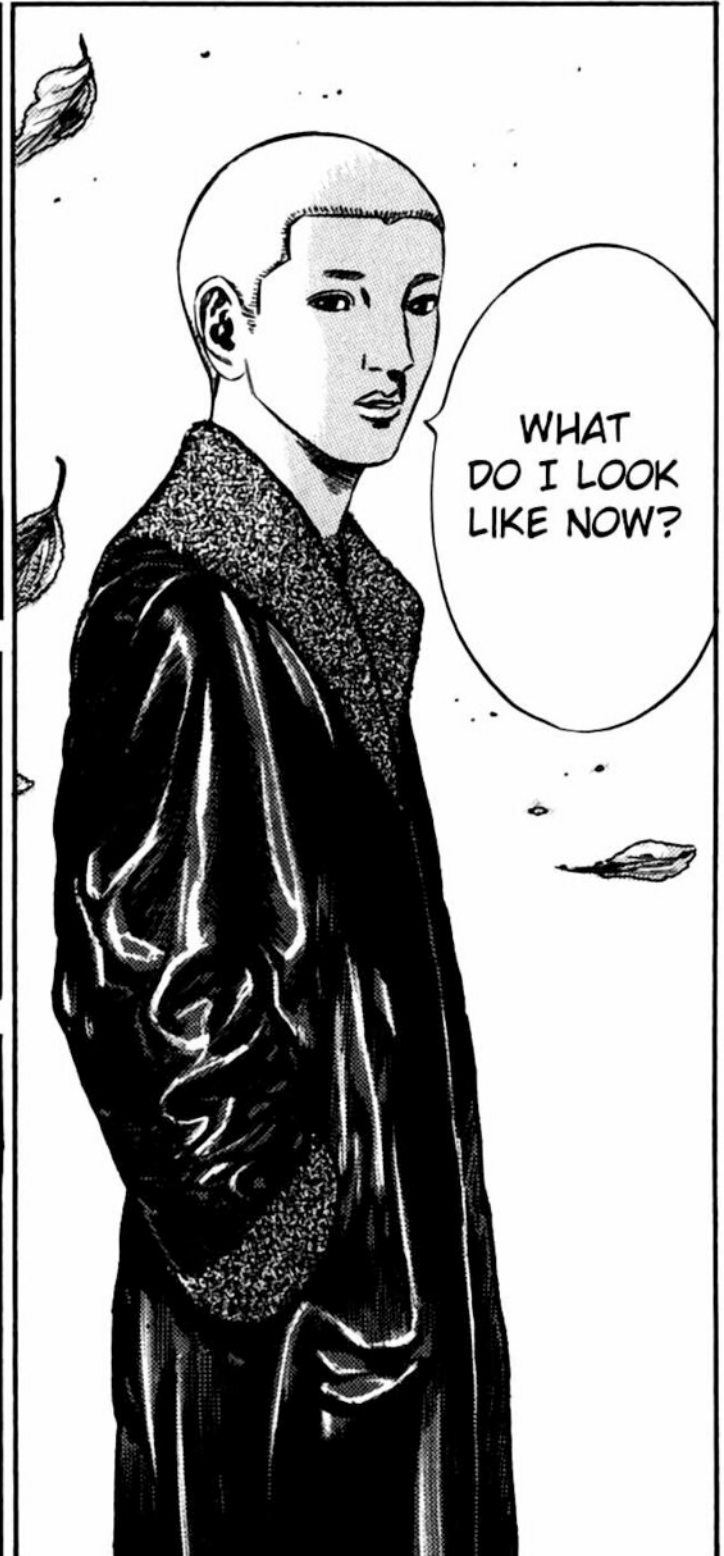
I OF COURSE
DO NOT THINK THAT
I HAVE A GENDER
IDENTITY DISORDER,

BUT
WITH
THAT
SAID,



HOWEVER...
FROM THIS POINT
ON, IF SIMILAR
EMOTIONS COME
BURSTING OUT
OF ME,

I DO
NOT THINK I
WILL BE ABLE
TO SUPPRESS
THEM ANY-
MORE.

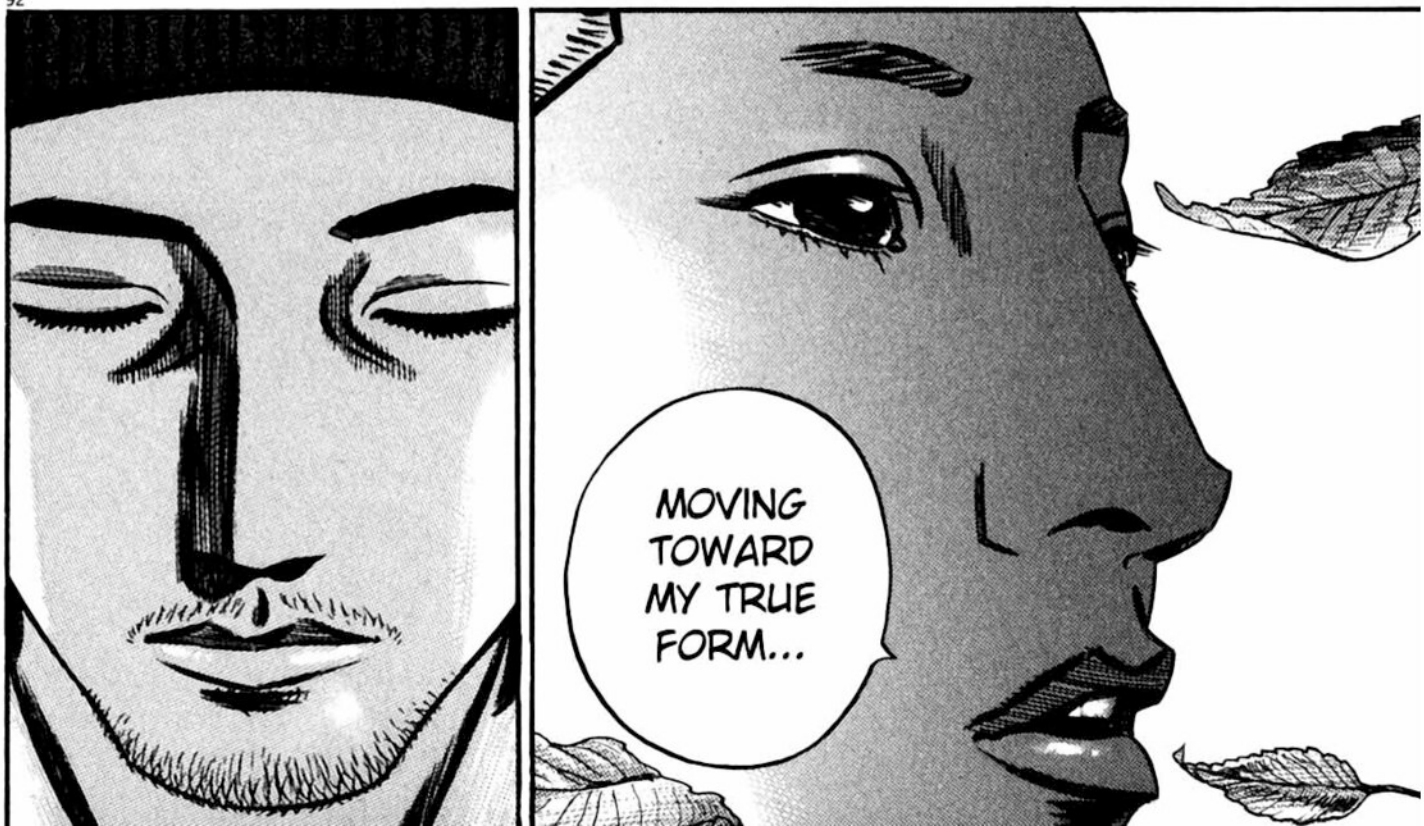




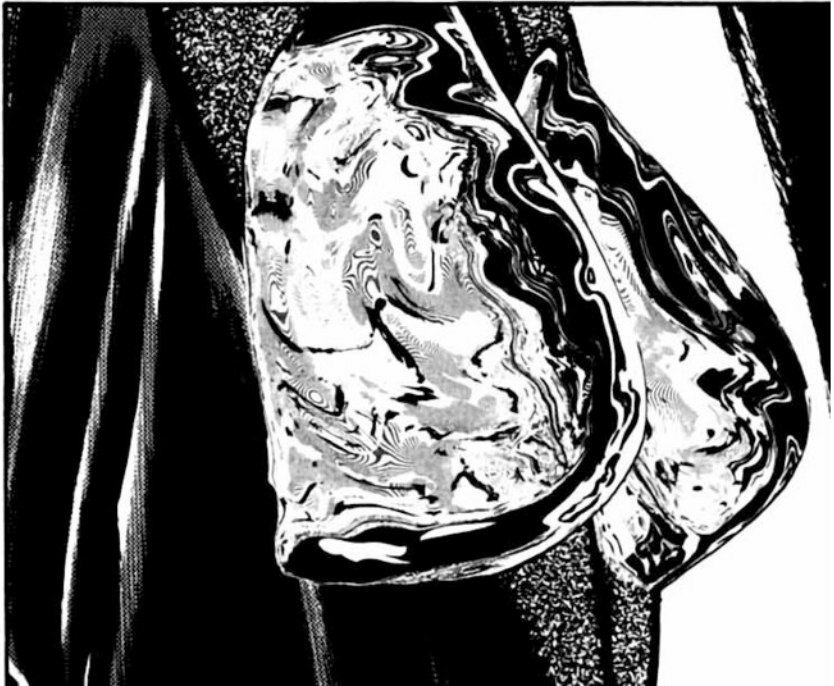
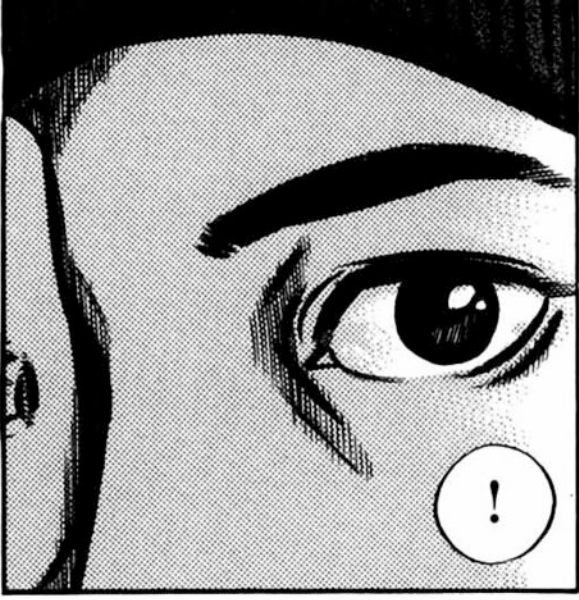
I WOULD
LIKE TO DO AS
I PLEASE.

NOW
THAT THE
"FATHER"
CASE IS
BROKEN,

92



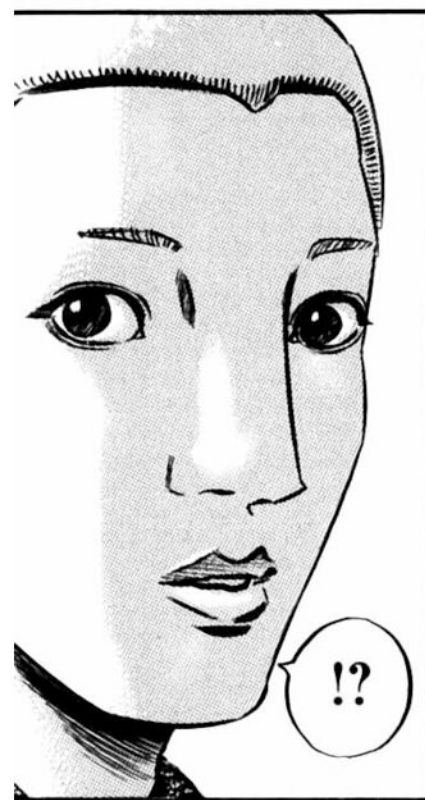
MOVING
TOWARD
MY TRUE
FORM...





I SEE.

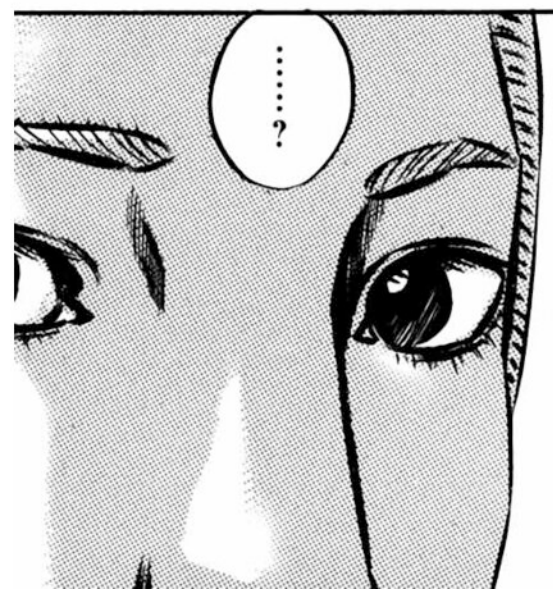
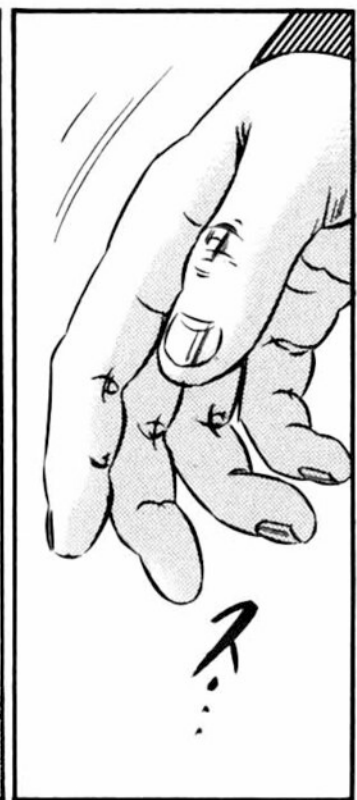
SO THAT'S WHY IT DIDN'T BECOME A PART OF ME.



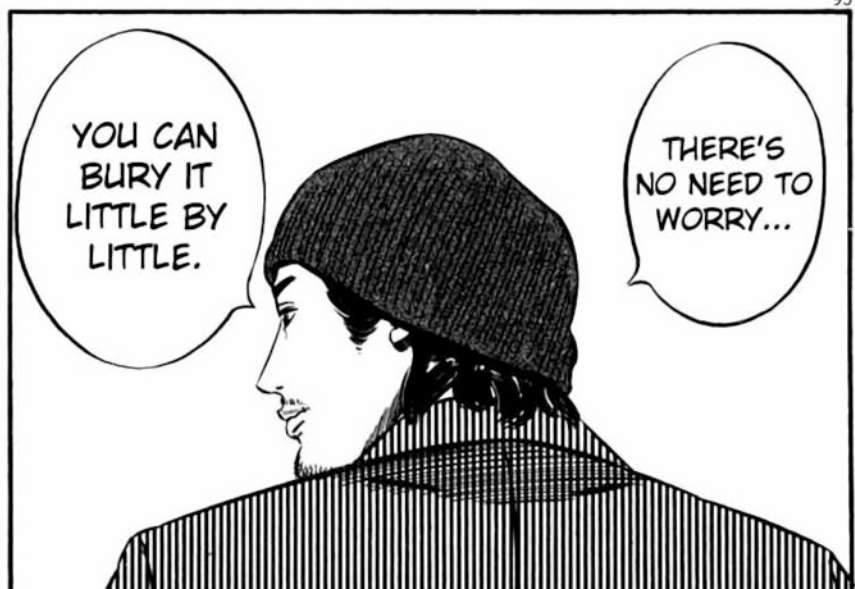
!?



YOUR HOMINICULUS ISN'T GONE YET.

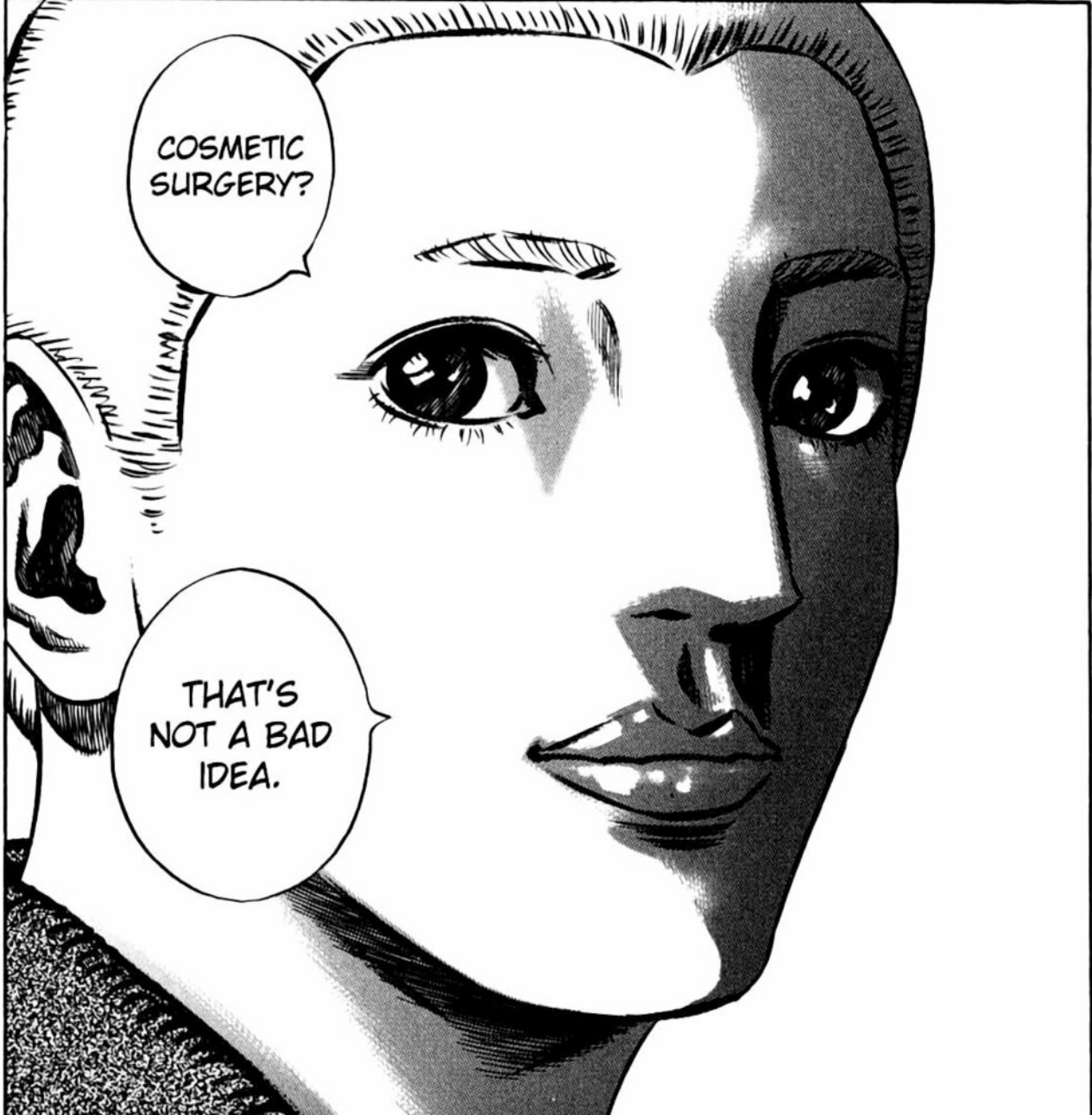
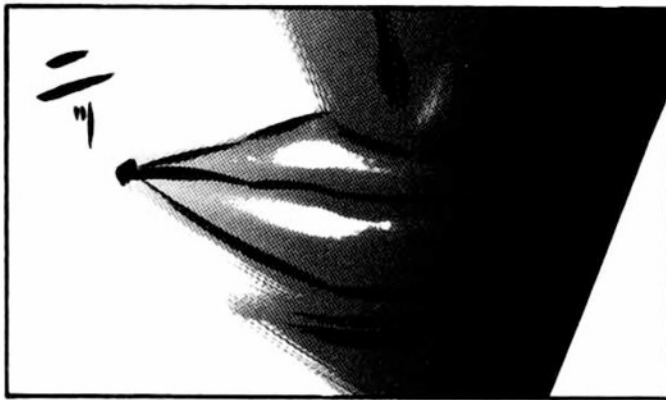
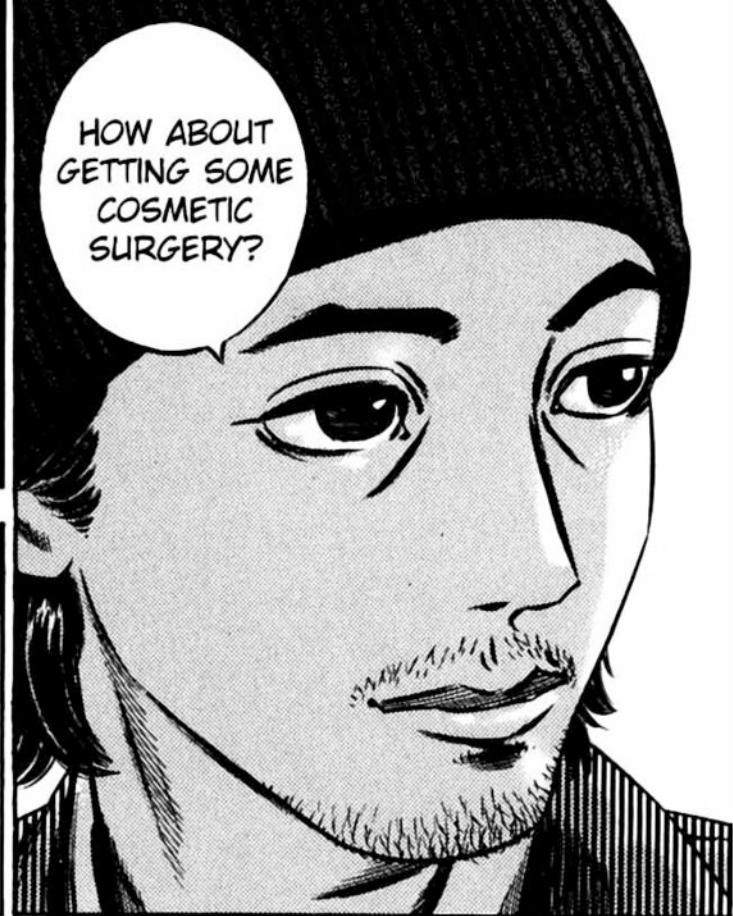
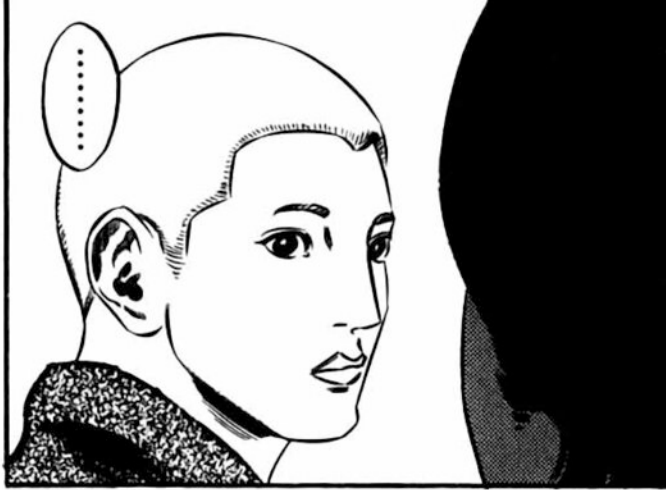


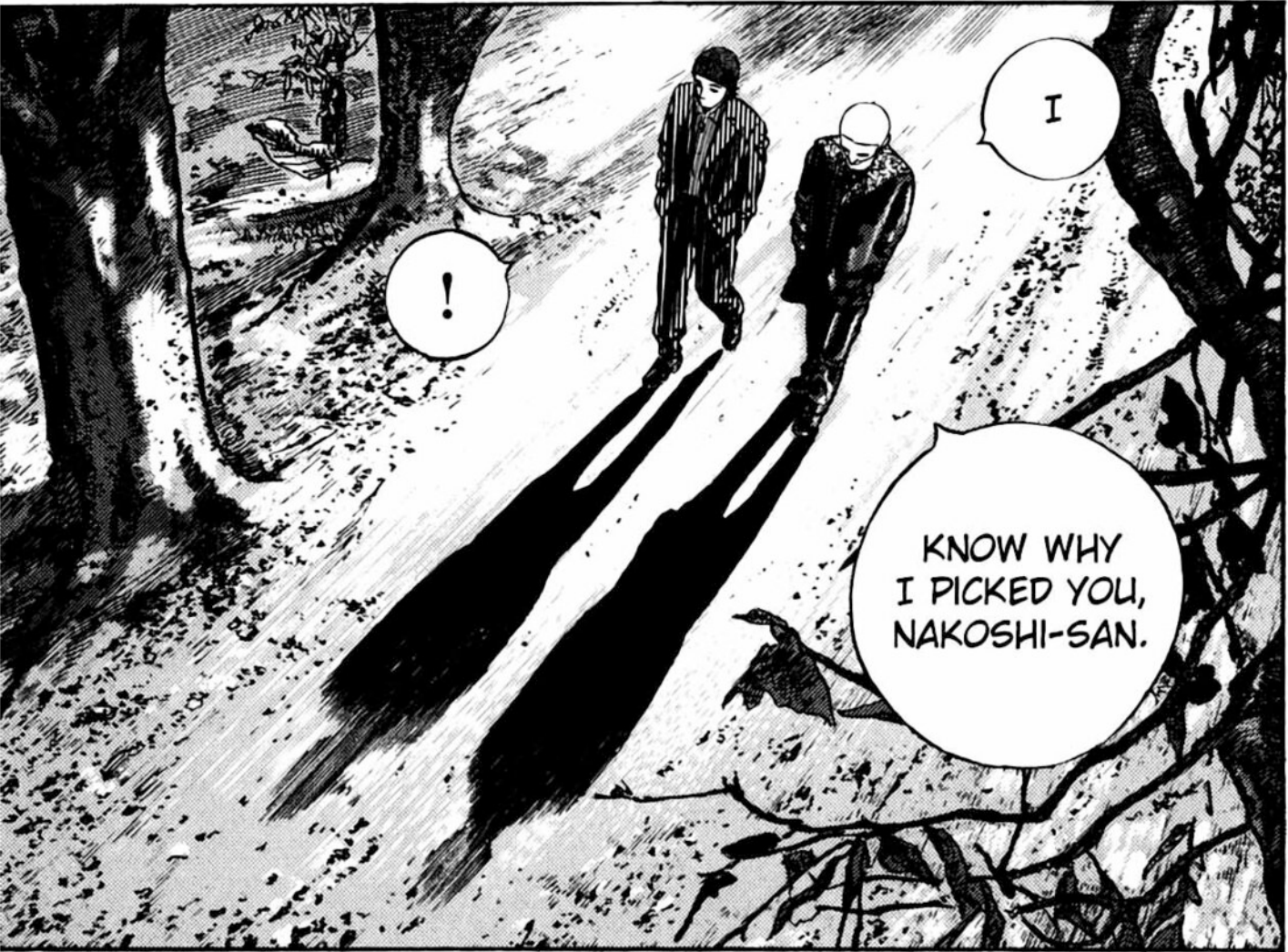
.....
?



YOU CAN BURY IT LITTLE BY LITTLE.

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY...





!

I

KNOW WHY
I PICKED YOU,
NAKOSHI-SAN.



.....
?

BUT I
KNOW
THE REAL
REASON
NOW.



I THOUGHT THAT
I HAD CHOSEN YOU
FOR THE TREPANATION
EXPERIMENT OUT
OF SOME VAGUE
INTEREST I HAD,



I WAS EXTREMELY INTERESTED, INCLUDING WHAT WE KNOW AS COSMETIC SURGERY.

BUT WHEN IT CAME TO THE HUMAN SHAPE...



I HAD BEEN STUDYING HUMANS FROM VARIOUS ANGLES,



NOT ONLY THAT, BUT HE WAS A "CAR HOMELESS" SMACK DAB IN THE INTERSTICE BETWEEN THE HOTEL AND THE PARK...

AND AT THAT TIME, I CAME ACROSS A MAN WHO HAD UNDERGONE COSMETIC SURGERY, CURLED UP LIKE A FETUS SLEEPING INSIDE A CAR...



!

NAKOSHI-SAN.



WHY DID YOU GET COSMETIC SURGERY,

JUST TO BECOME A HOMELESS PERSON IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?



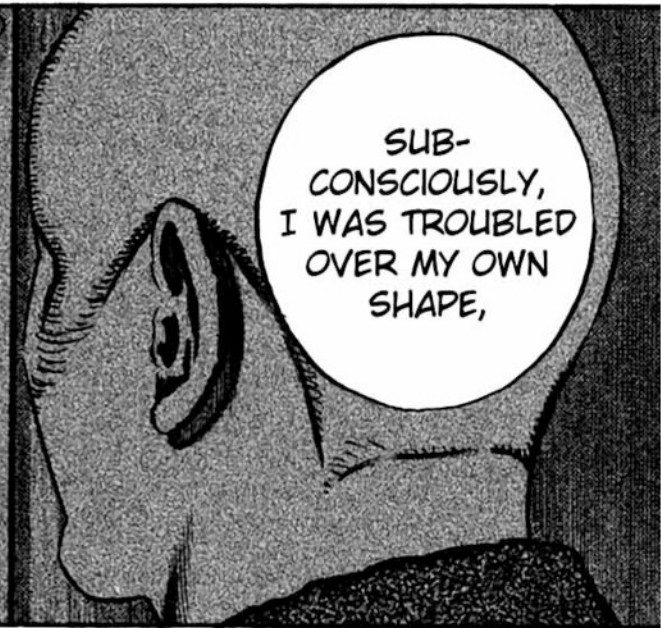
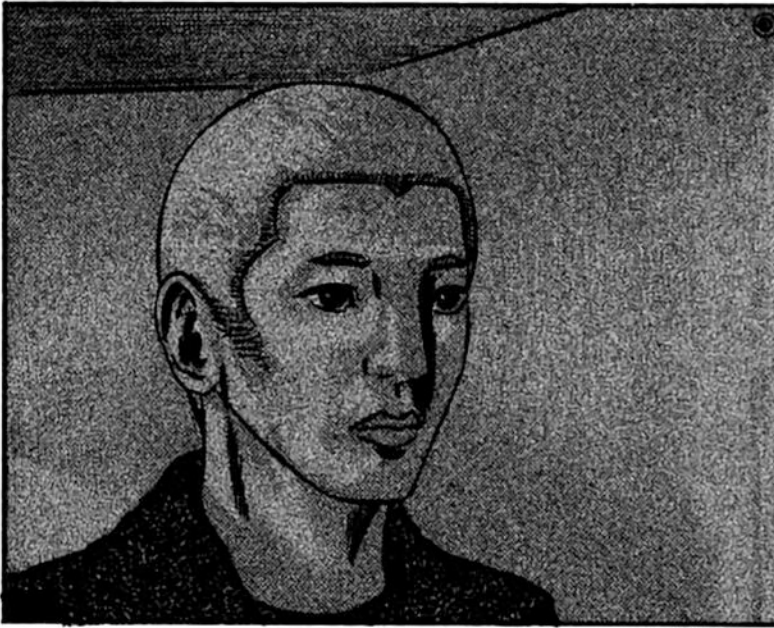
!?



ARE YOU IN THIS SITUATION RIGHT NOW?

THEN WHY

IF COSMETIC SURGERY IS SUPPOSED TO MAKE PEOPLE HAPPY, TO BETTER THEIR CONDITIONS...



SUB-CONSCIOUSLY, I WAS TROUBLED OVER MY OWN SHAPE,



AND SECRET HOPES TOWARD COSMETIC SURGERY...

WHICH LEAD TO MY RESEARCH,



THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO BECAME A HOMELESS AFTER GETTING COSMETIC SURGERY,



AT THE SAME TIME,



AND QUESTIONING HIMSELF...

TELLING NOTHING BUT LIES,



AND I CHOSE YOU.

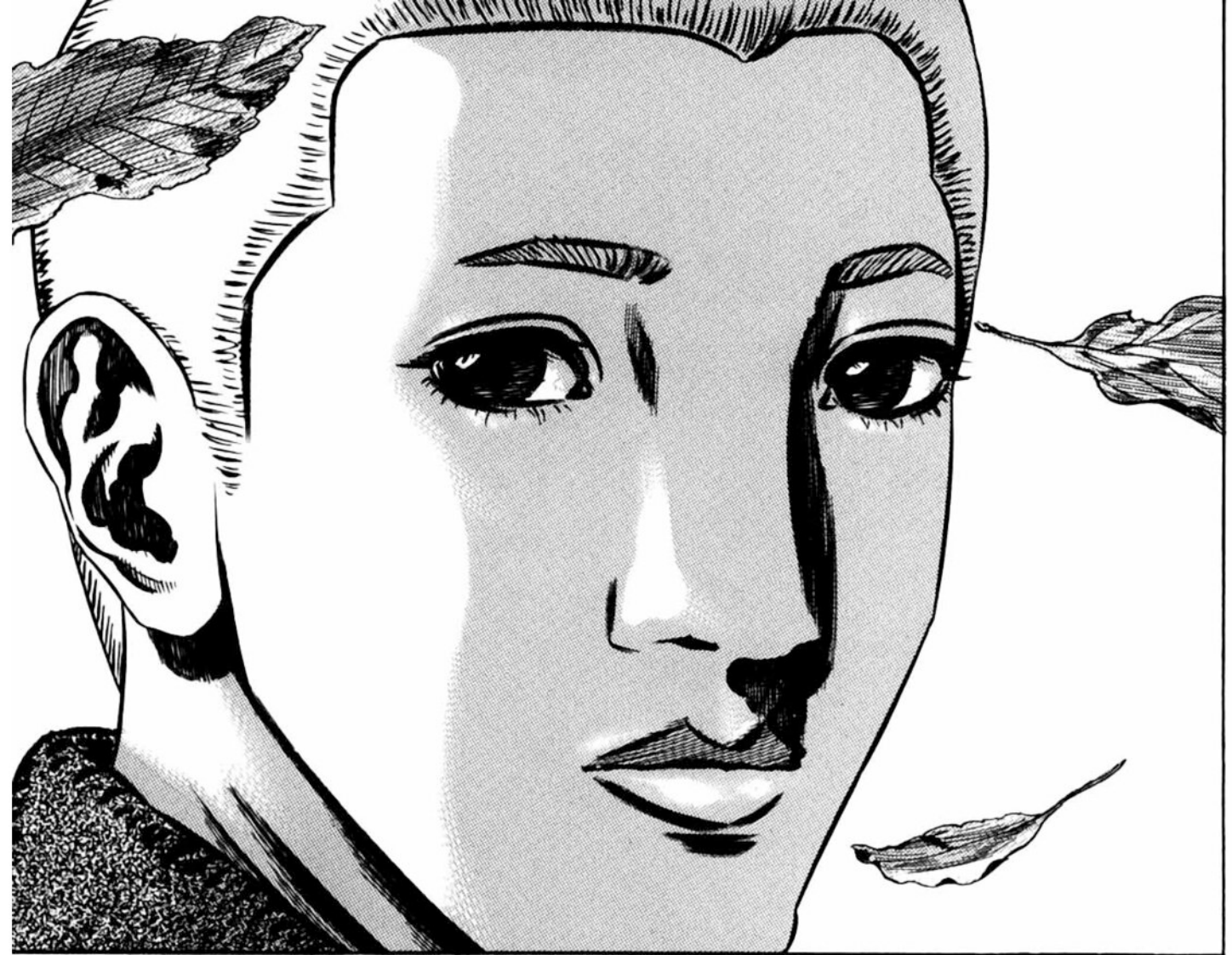
MY FEARS THEN TRANSFORMED INTO INTEREST IN YOU...



AND THEN
BECOME A
"CAR HOMELESS"
PERSON...?

SO WHY DID
YOU CHANGE
YOUR FACE

!





WHAT DOES IT
MEAN TO BE
HUMAN...?

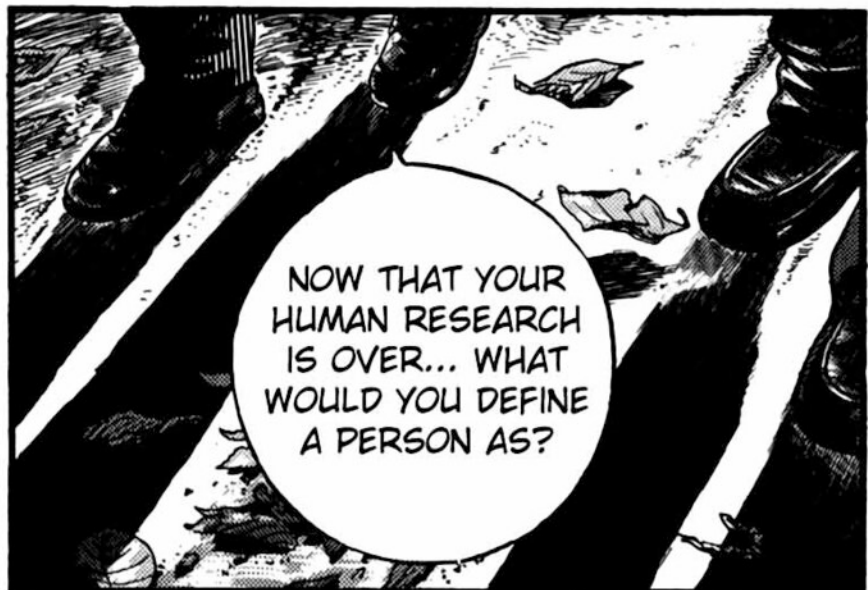




WHAT!?



...



NOW THAT YOUR HUMAN RESEARCH IS OVER... WHAT WOULD YOU DEFINE A PERSON AS?



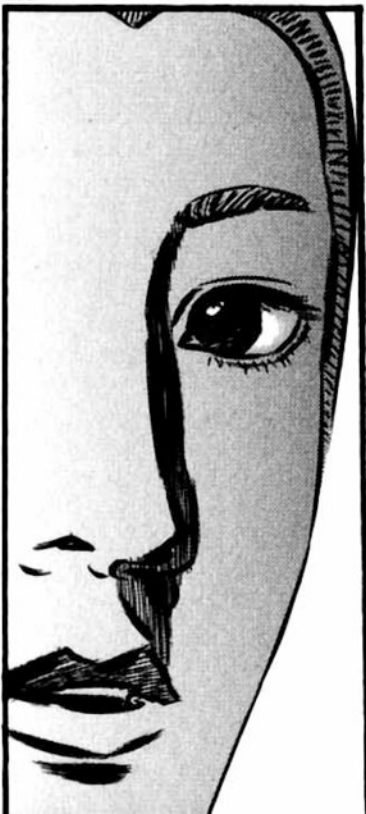
STOP ACTING COOL...

WHAT IS A HUMAN...? I WONDER...

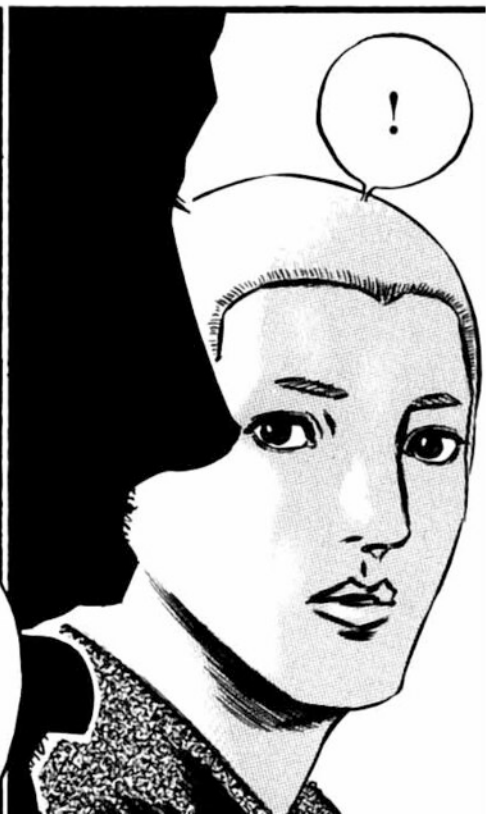


HUMANS
ARE

"FORMS."



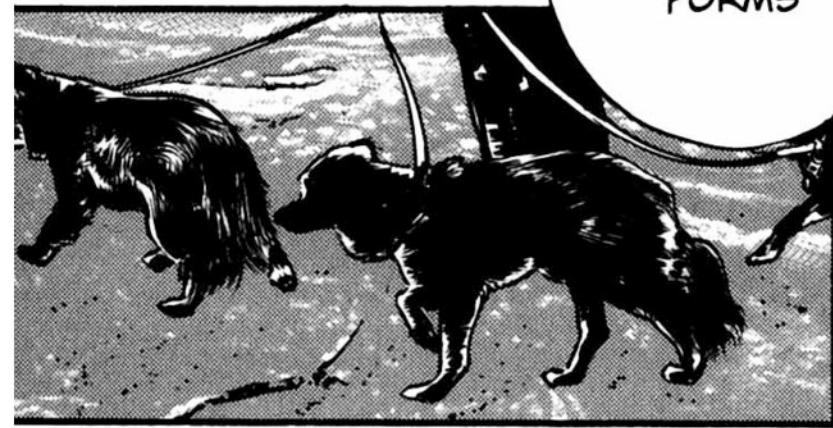
ALL THAT
TALK ABOUT
HUMANS BEING
SOUL AND MIND
IS BULLSHIT...



!



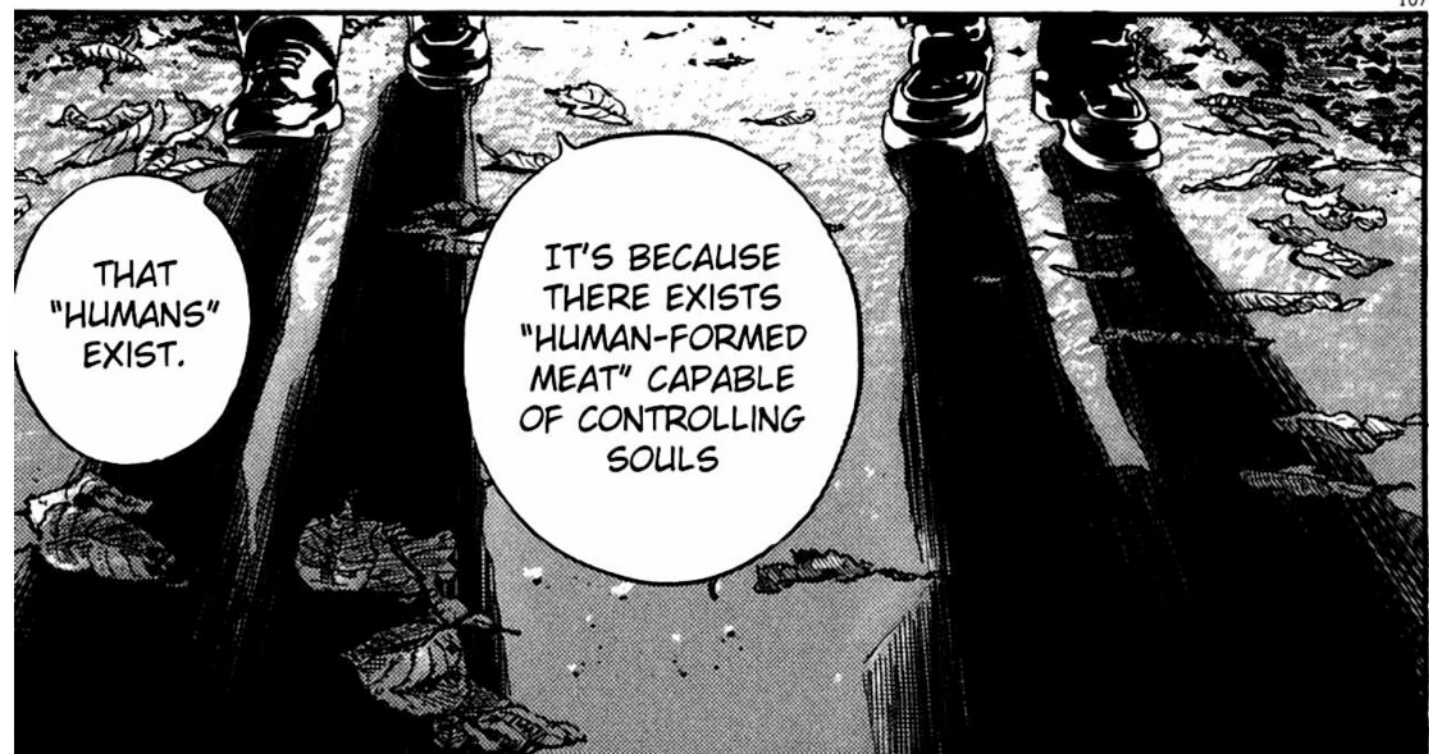
IT'S BECAUSE HUMANS HAVE FORMS



AND COMMUNICATE WITH OTHERS.



THAT THEY CAN SEE, HEAR, SMELL, TOUCH, TASTE,



THAT "HUMANS" EXIST.

IT'S BECAUSE THERE EXISTS "HUMAN-FORMED MEAT" CAPABLE OF CONTROLLING SOULS



WE CAN
SPEAK
THEREFORE
WE LIE,

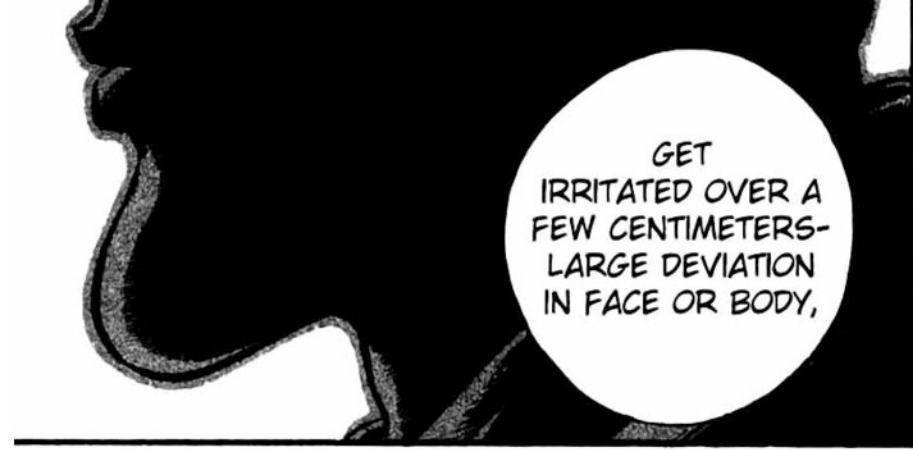


WE
HAVE BODIES
THEREFORE
WE HURT
OTHERS,

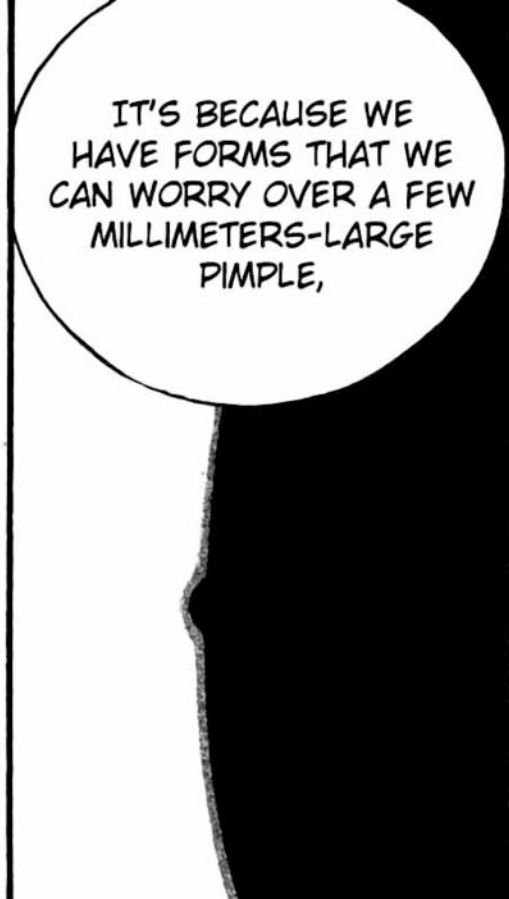


WE HAVE EYES,
THEREFORE WE
CAN BE SEEN BY
OTHER PEOPLE...





GET
IRRITATED OVER A
FEW CENTIMETERS-
LARGE DEVIATION
IN FACE OR BODY,



IT'S BECAUSE WE
HAVE FORMS THAT WE
CAN WORRY OVER A FEW
MILLIMETERS-LARGE
PIMPLE,




PANIC OVER
THE LOSS OF
A SINGLE FRONT
TOOTH...



EYES PEER
AWAY FROM
NOSES A FEW
MILLIMETERS
TOO LARGE,



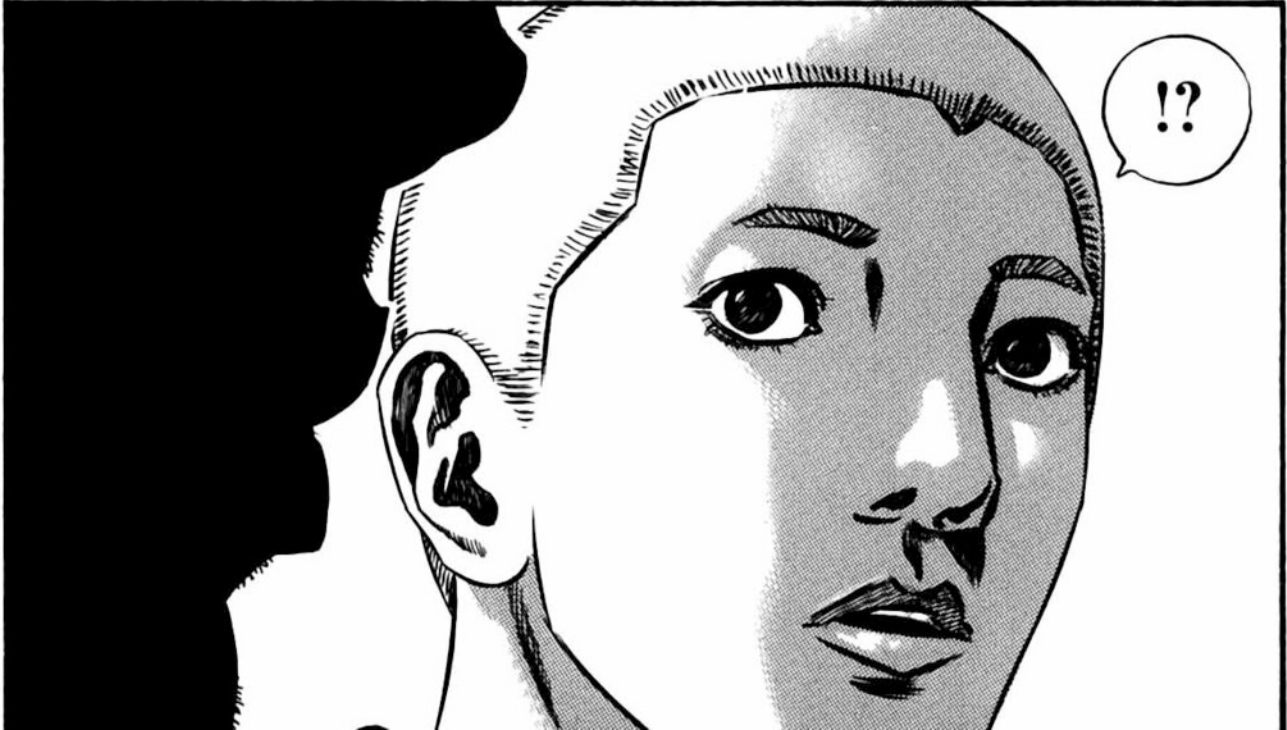
EYES
ARE DRAWN
TO OTHER
EYES A FEW
MILLIMETERS
TOO LARGE,



AND A
MAN A FEW
CENTIMETERS
TOO SHORT
CAN NEVER FIND
EYES TO LOOK
UPON HIM.



EYES ARE
STOLEN BY
WOMEN A FEW
CENTIMETERS
THIN,



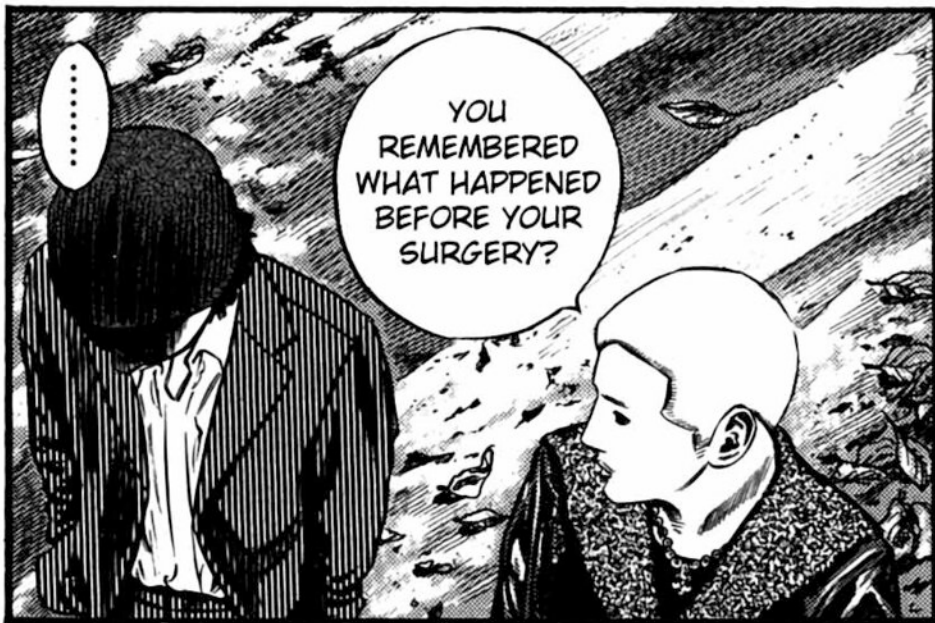


THESE FORMS
ARE THE
PROBLEM...!



BEFORE MY SURGERY...

THAT'S ALL I EVER THOUGHT ABOUT...



YOU REMEMBERED WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE YOUR SURGERY?

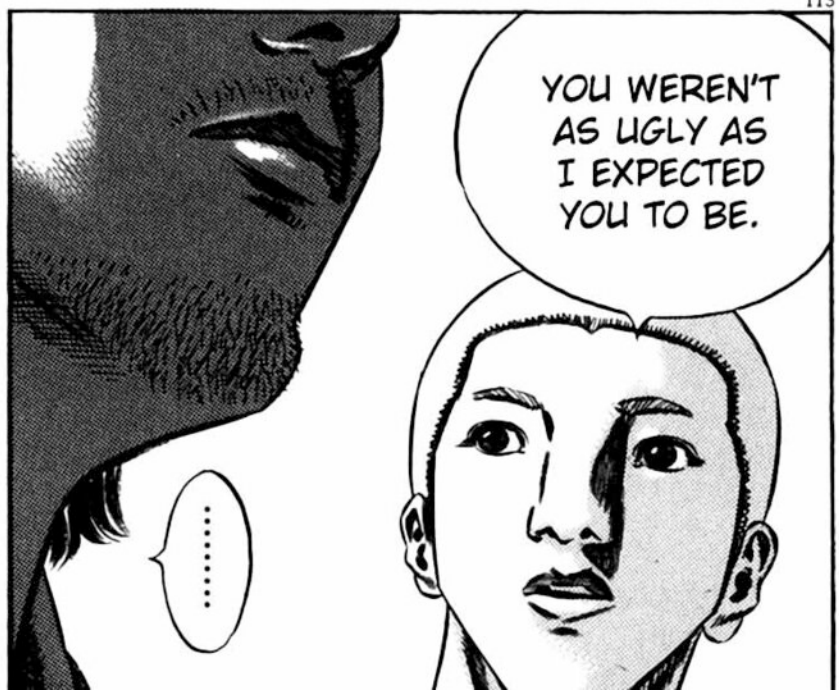
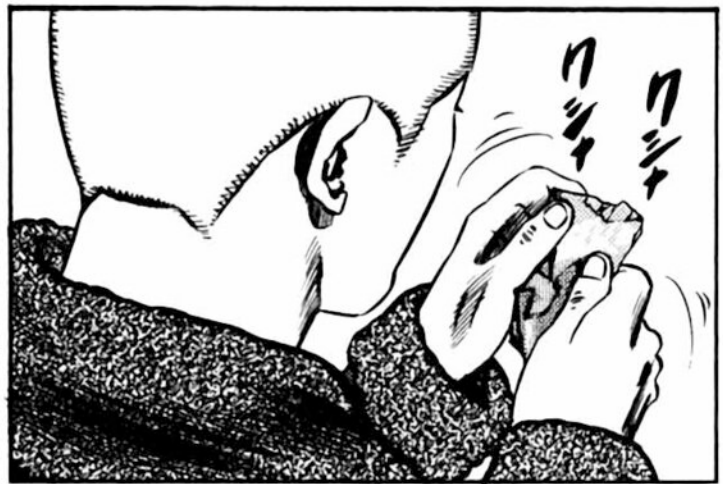
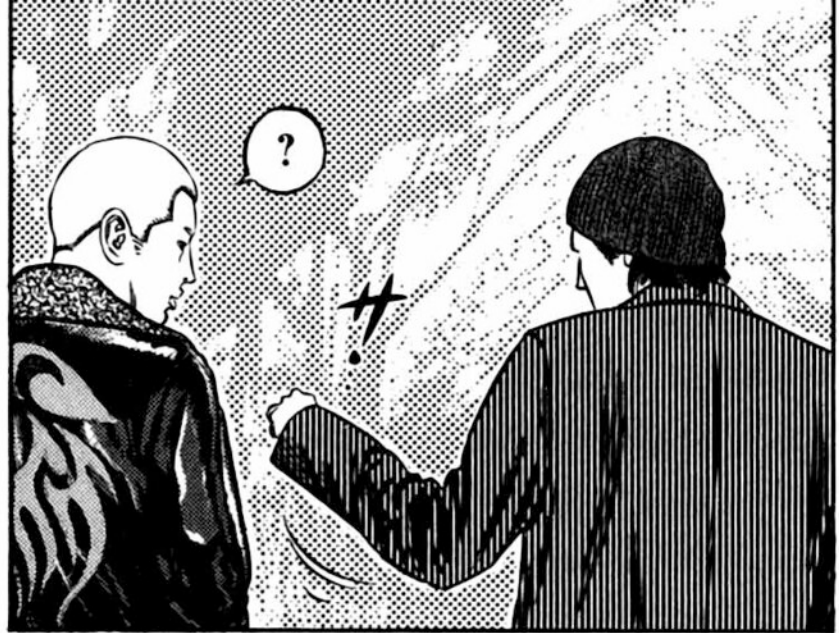
.....



!

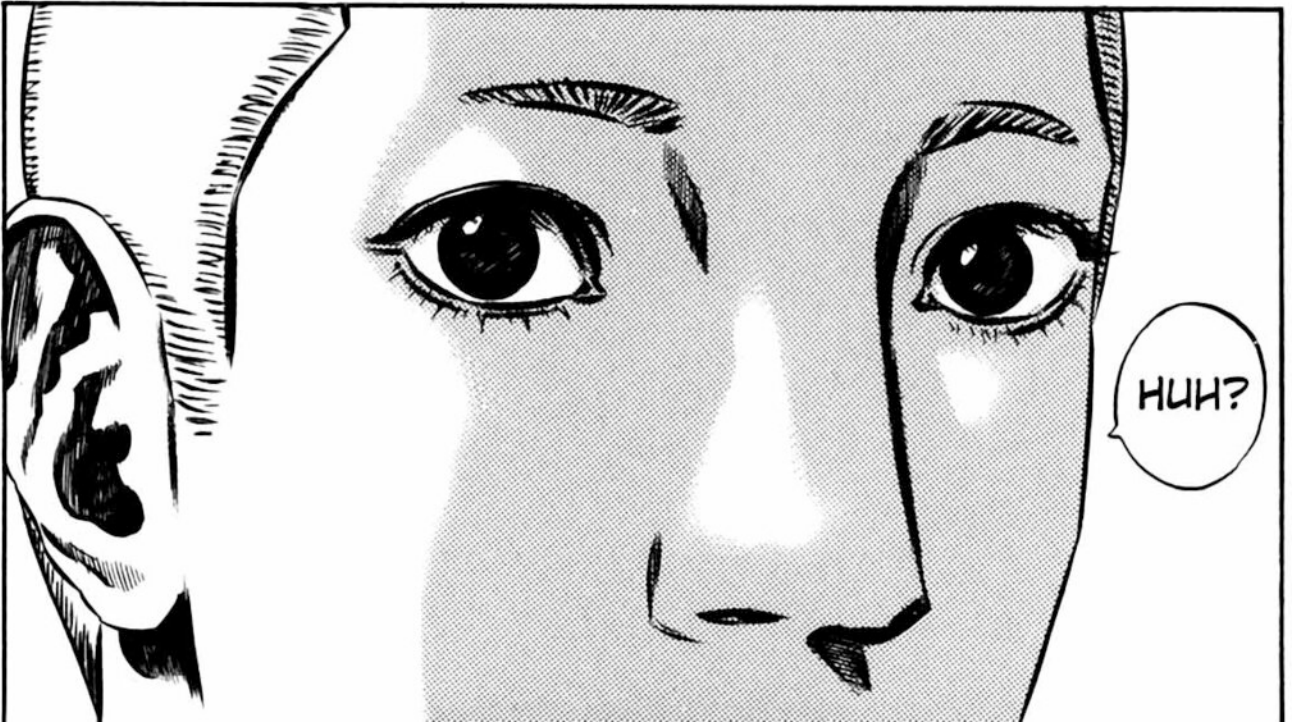


YEAH...





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...NOTHING...



ONE THAT NO ONE
WAS INTERESTED IN,
ONE THAT NO ONE
WOULD LOOK UPON OR
GIVE ATTENTION TO...

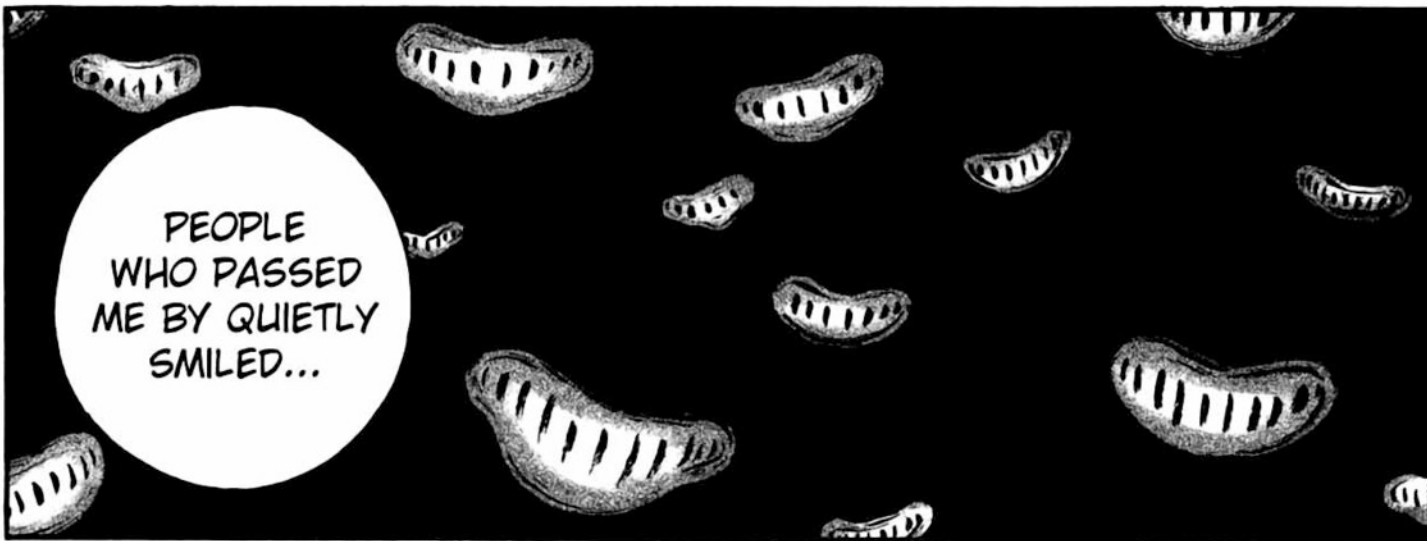
I WAS A
BORING
HUMAN...

JUST
LIKE AN
INVISIBLE
MAN...

NOTHING...



IN THE SINGLE
MOMENT THAT PEOPLE
GLANCED OVER ME,
THE LACK OF INTEREST
IN THEIR EYES WAS ALL
TOO APPARENT...



PEOPLE
WHO PASSED
ME BY QUIETLY
SMILED...

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GRADUALLY,
I BEGAN
LOOKING
DOWN TO HIDE
MY FACE,

WALKING
WHILE CUTTING
MYSELF OFF
FROM OTHERS...



BEING
NOTHING BUT
A GLOOMY
HUMAN...

EVERY DAY,
I LOOKED ONLY
AT MY FEET AS
I WALKED,



NO TRACE
OF TRAUMA...
NO JOY,
SADNESS, PAIN,
HAPPINESS...

PFFT.
NOT LIKE
THERE WOULD
ACTUALLY BE
ANYTHING
THERE...



AND OF
COURSE,
NO REAL
FEELING...



WHILE
WANDERING
THROUGH
AN EMPTY
WORLD,

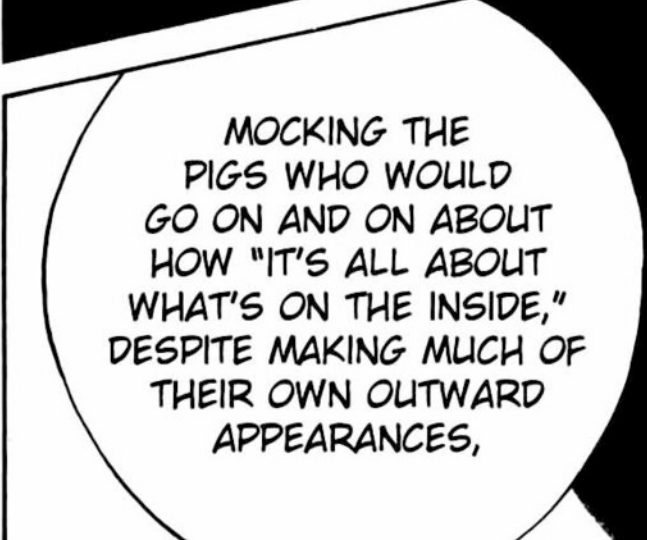
I KNOW I
WAS LOOKING
DOWN BECAUSE
I WAS AFRAID OF
GETTING HURT,

120



ENVYING THEM,
CURSING THEM
IN MY MIND,


OCCASIONALLY
GIVING SIDELONG
GLANCES TO PEOPLE
WHO WERE POPULAR,
OR GETTING SOME
KIND OF ATTENTION
OR FAME,



MOCKING THE
PIGS WHO WOULD
GO ON AND ON ABOUT
HOW "IT'S ALL ABOUT
WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE,"
DESPITE MAKING MUCH OF
THEIR OWN OUTWARD
APPEARANCES,



AND THEN
LOOKING
BACK DOWN TO
MY FEET AND
WALKING ON...



PAYING CAREFUL
ATTENTION SO AS
NOT TO LET THE
EMOTIONAL SEESAW
TEETER...





OF
COURSE.



YOU THOUGHT
"SOMETHING"
WOULD HAPPEN
IF YOU CHANGED
YOUR FACE?



YEAH...

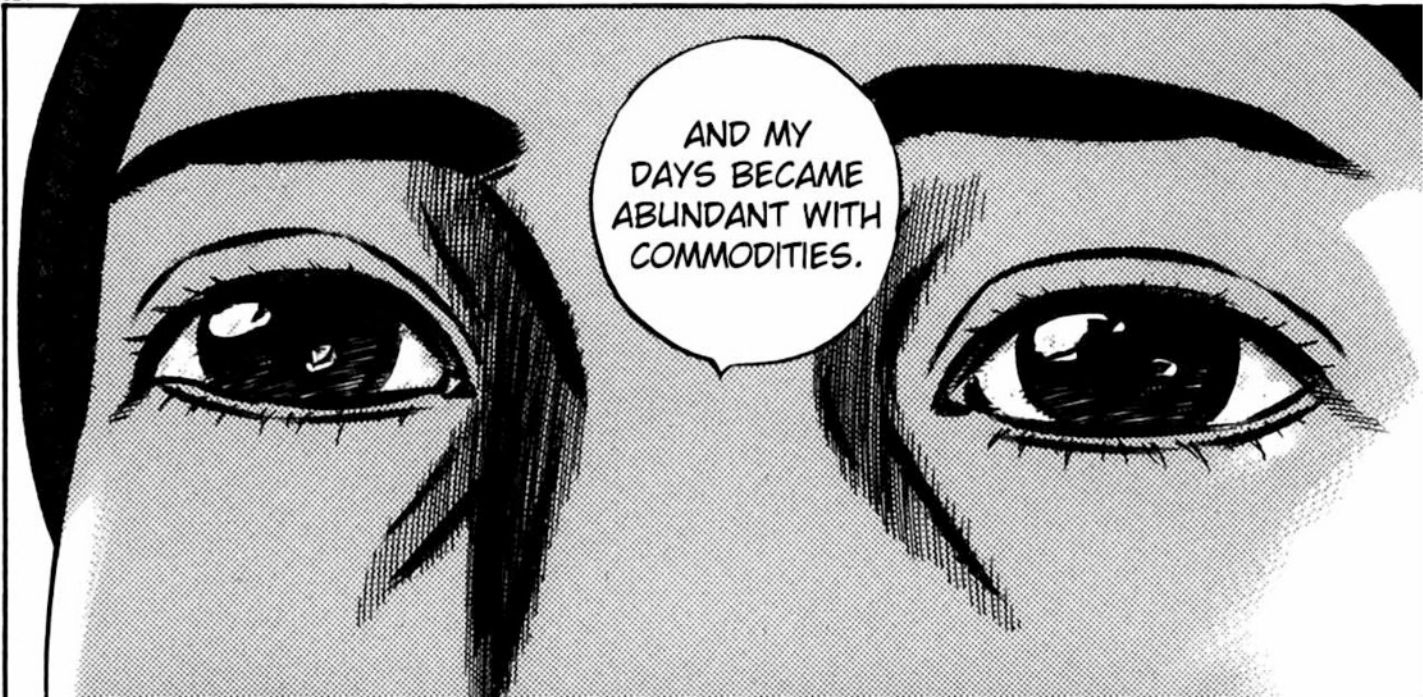


AND SO
YOU DID.

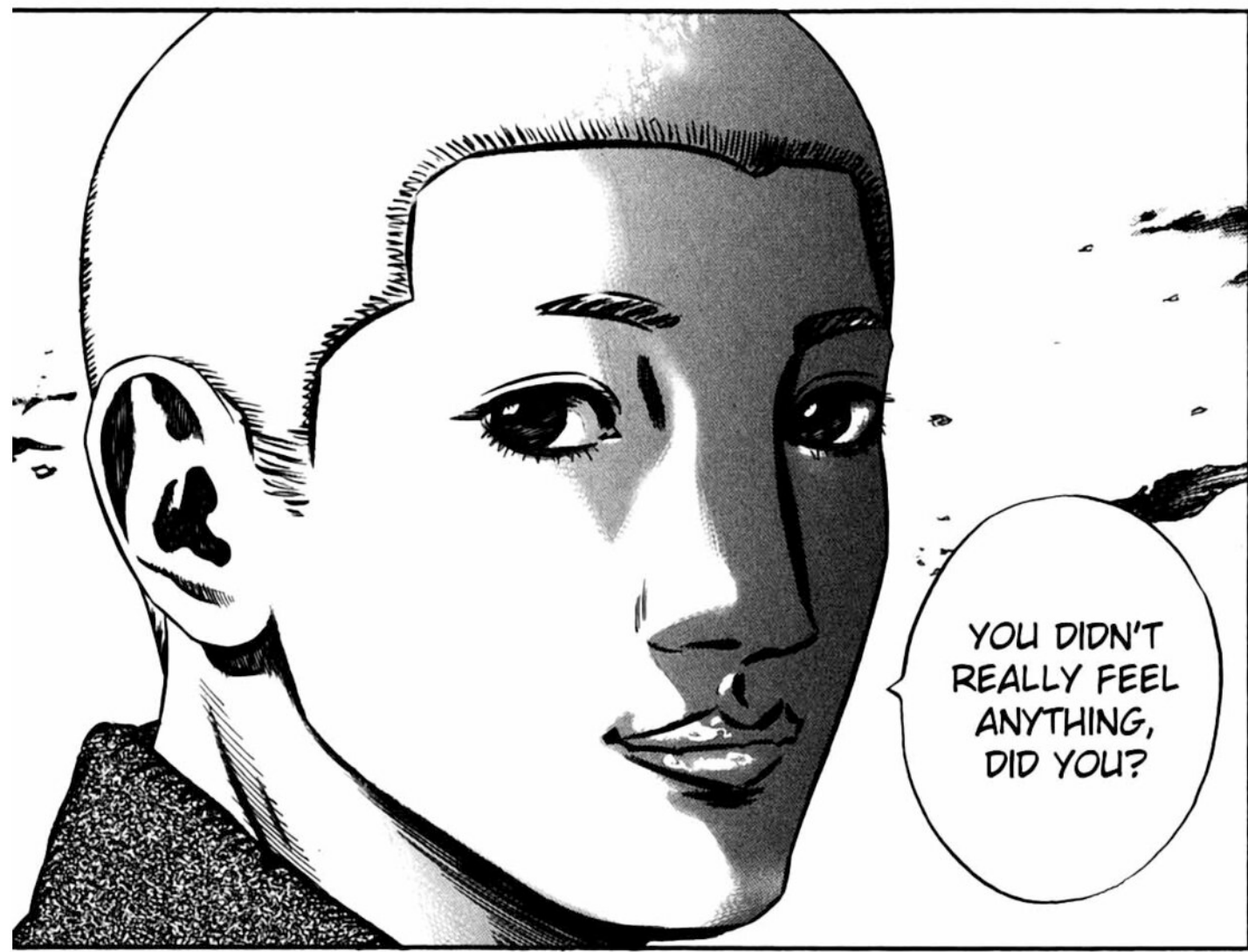




WOMEN BEGAN
TO LOOK AT ME,
I SLEPT WITH THEM,
WAS SUCCESSFUL
IN MY CAREER,
GOT MONEY,



AND MY
DAYS BECAME
ABUNDANT WITH
COMMODITIES.





EVEN IF I
KISSED SOMEONE,
I DOUBTED WHETHER
THEY WERE ACTUALLY
KISSING ME,

THE HANDS THAT
TOUCHED ME LOOKED
LIKE SOILED HANDS
THAT OFTEN TOUCHED
BRAND-NAME GOODS.

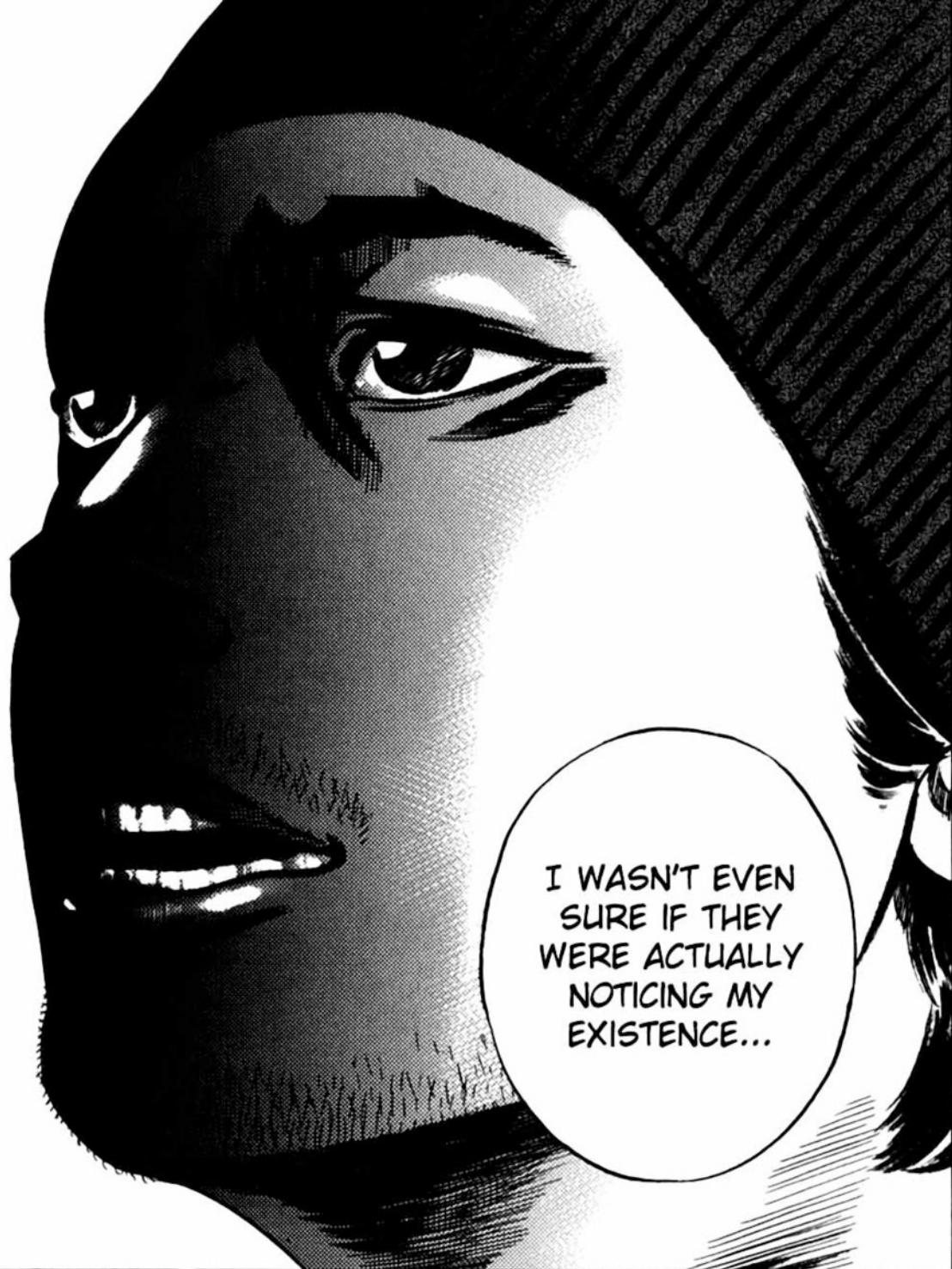
AND THEIR GENTLE
WORDS STARTED TO
SOUND LIKE DIRECT
WHISPERS TO
MY WALLET.

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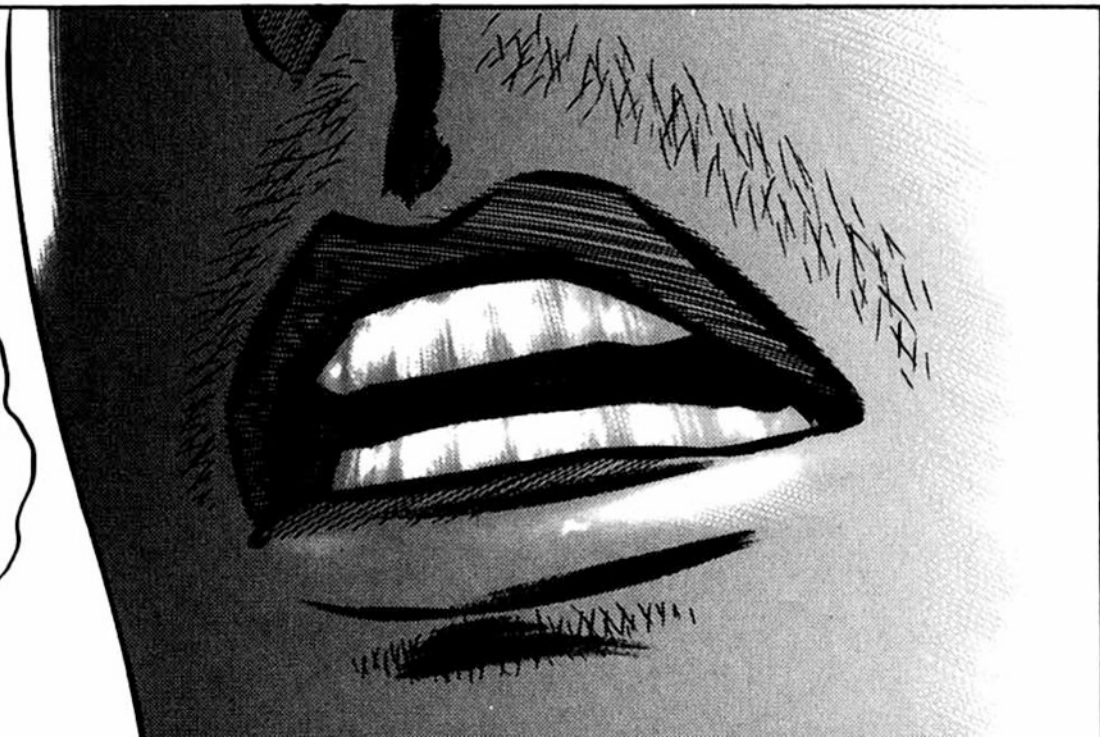


WERE THEY
LOOKING FAR PAST
ME, OR WERE THEIR
GAZES STOPPING
WAY BEFORE THEY
REACHED ME...?

THE EYES WERE
ANGLED CLEARLY
TOWARD ME, YET
THE FOCUS WASN'T
SET ON ME.



I WASN'T EVEN SURE IF THEY WERE ACTUALLY NOTICING MY EXISTENCE...



THEY WERE TREATING ME LIKE AN INVISIBLE MAN...!



AND THE
WORDS THAT
LEFT MY MOUTH
BECAME PAINTED
IN LIES,

AND SO,
MY EYES
FILLED WITH
DISTRUST,



SO MUCH
THAT I EVEN
BEGAN TO LIE
TO MYSELF...



THERE, I
HAD NO REAL
FEELING, AND
OF COURSE NO
"SELF" EXISTED,
EITHER.



WANTING
TO ESCAPE
SOMEWHERE...

I PANICKED,
THROWING AWAY
MY APARTMENTS,
MONEY, AND ALL
OTHER THINGS
WHICH DREW FAKE
INTEREST,



AH...

AND SO
I CAME TO
THE INTERVAL
BETWEEN THE
HOTEL AND
THE PARK.



THAT
WOULD BE
A LITTLE
DIFFICULT
TO GET
RID OF.

TRUE.



THERE
WAS ONE
THING I DIDN'T
THROW AWAY,
THOUGH:
MY FACE.



I
SEE.



BUT IT ALL
LOOKED LIKE
FALSITIES TO YOU,
SO YOU COULDN'T
GET ANY REAL
FEELING.

SO YOU
CHANGED YOUR
FACE AND GOT
PEOPLE TO
LOOK AT YOU,



I CAN'T
GET REAL
LOOKS...

NOTHING'S
CHANGED FROM
THE TIME WHEN
I WALKED
STARING AT
MY FEET...



YEAH...



THERE'S
NOTHING.

NOW,
AND BACK
THEN,

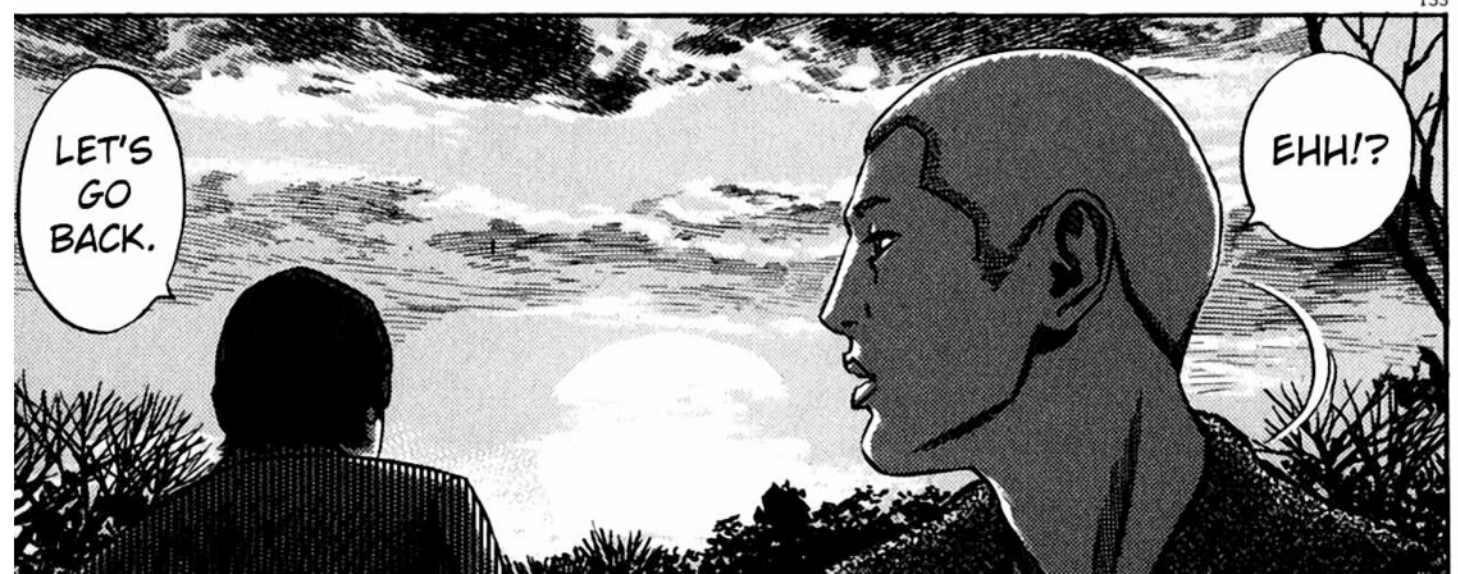
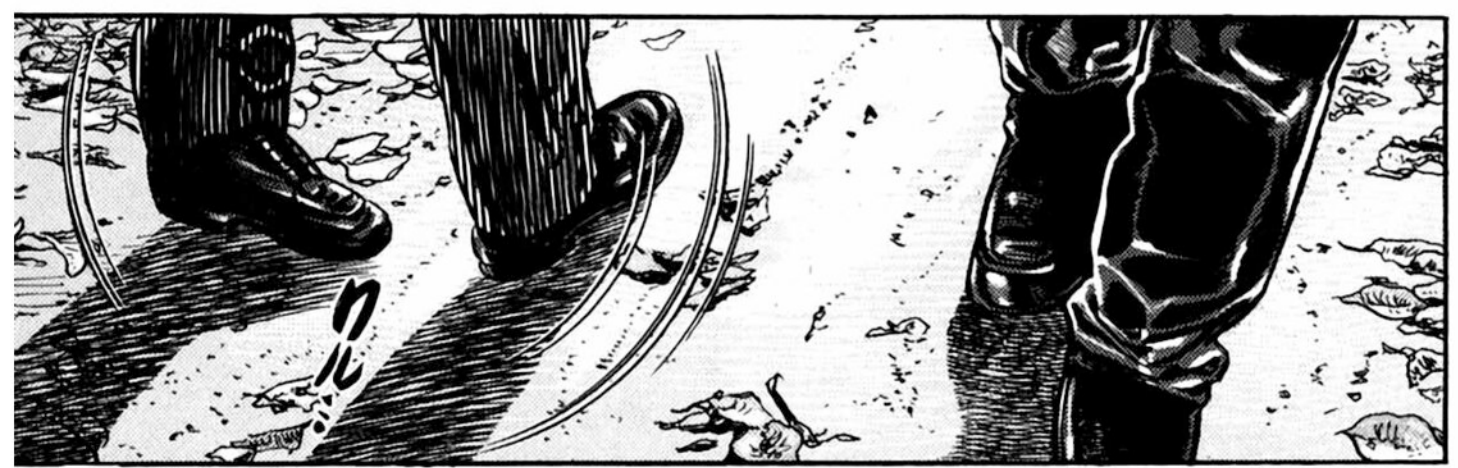


HAVE I HAD
NOTHING...?

FOR
THIRTY-
FOUR
YEARS...

JUST
WHERE
AM I...?





LET'S
GO
BACK.

EHH!?

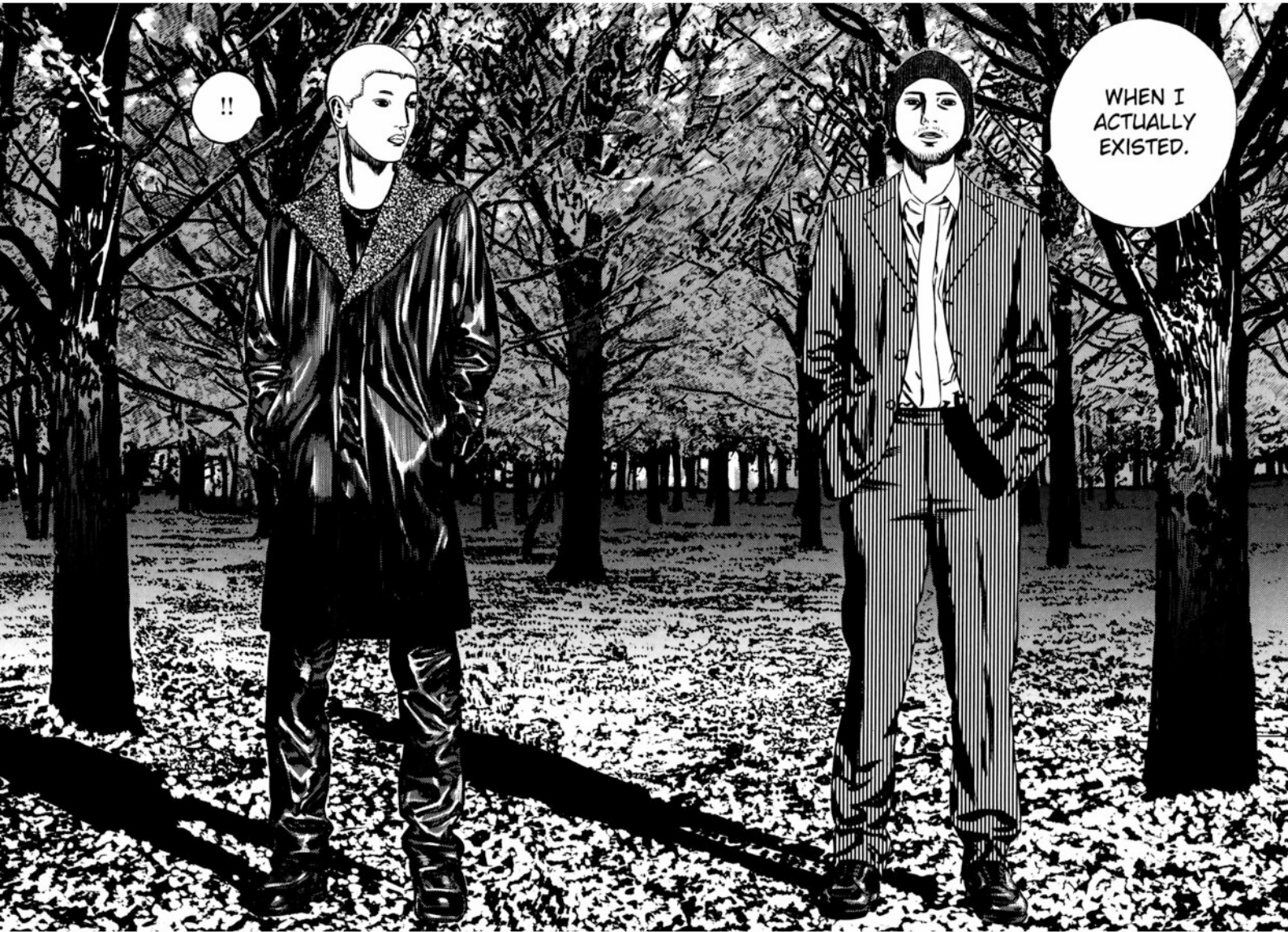


I'M SICK
OF LOOKING
AT MY OWN
SHADOW...



?

THERE
WAS ONLY
ONE TIME...

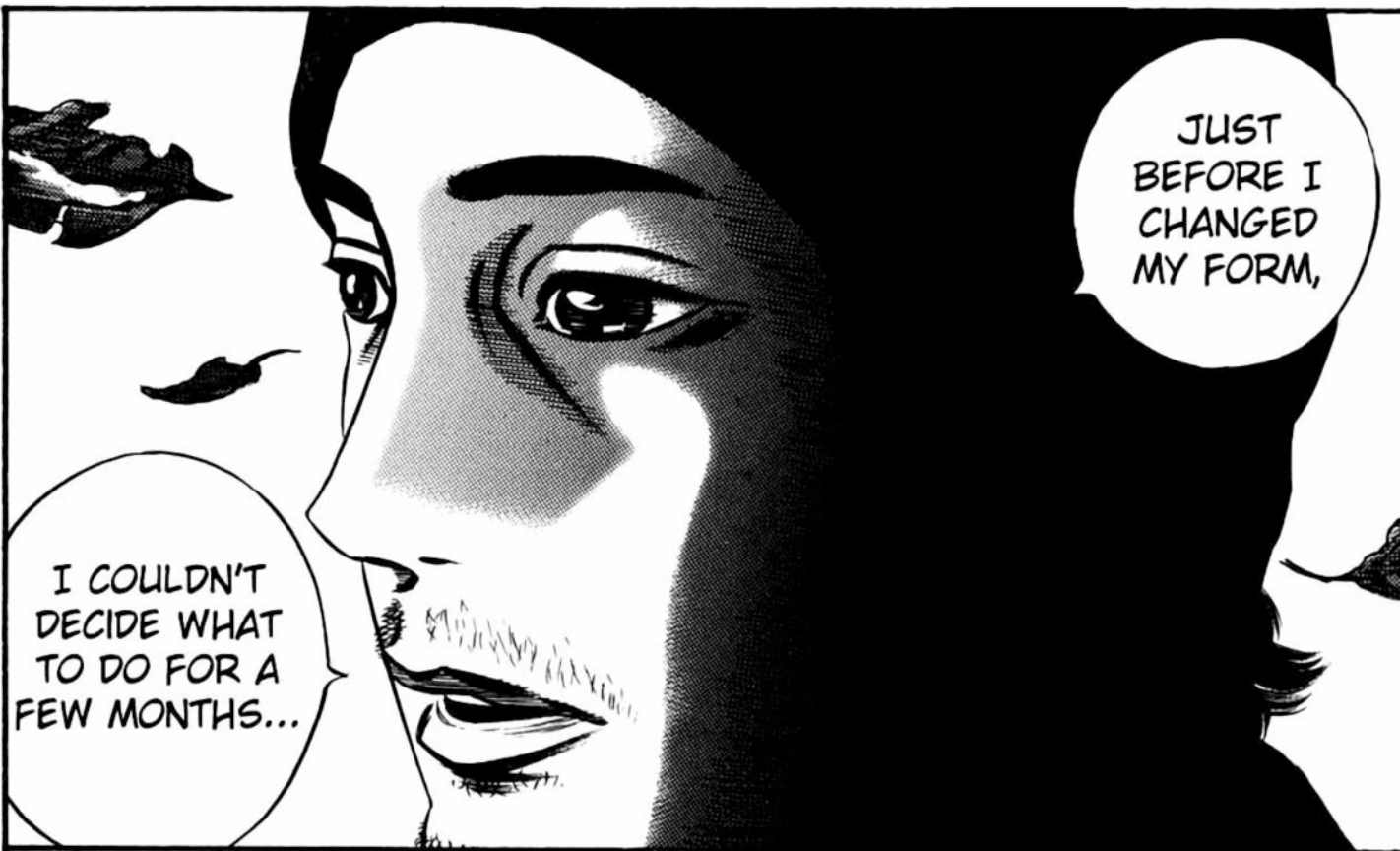


!!

WHEN I
ACTUALLY
EXISTED.



WHEN
WAS
THAT?



JUST
BEFORE I
CHANGED
MY FORM,

I COULDN'T
DECIDE WHAT
TO DO FOR A
FEW MONTHS...

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AND DURING
THIS TIME WHEN
I WAS TAKING
ANOTHER LOOK
AT MYSELF,
QUESTIONING
MYSELF...

WAS IT REALLY
OKAY TO THROW
AWAY THE FACE
I'D HAD FOR SO
LONG...? WAS IT
OKAY TO THROW
AWAY THE "ME"
THAT HAD LIVED
UP UNTIL
NOW...?



THERE
WAS A SINGLE
PERSON WHO
LOOKED AT ME...

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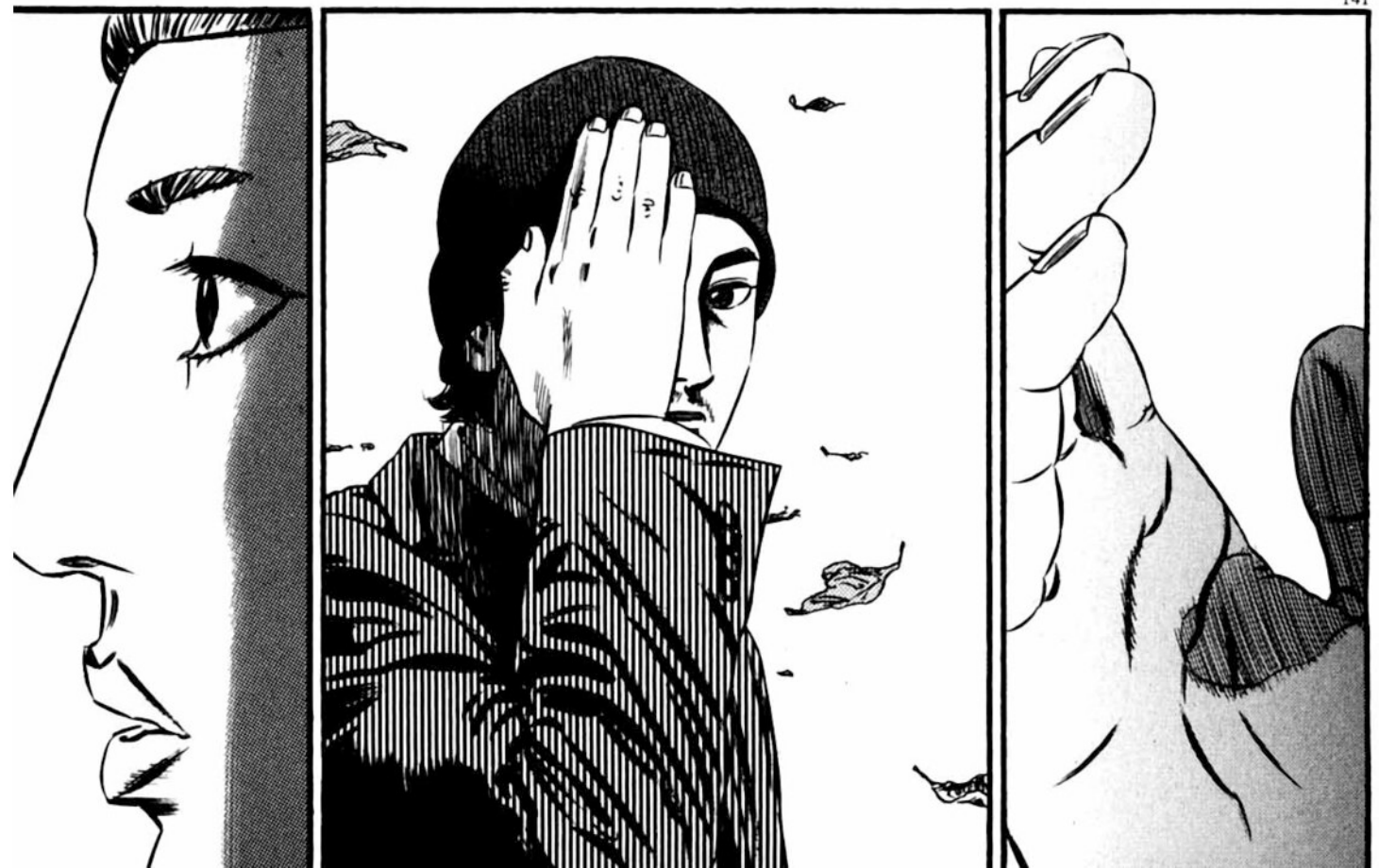
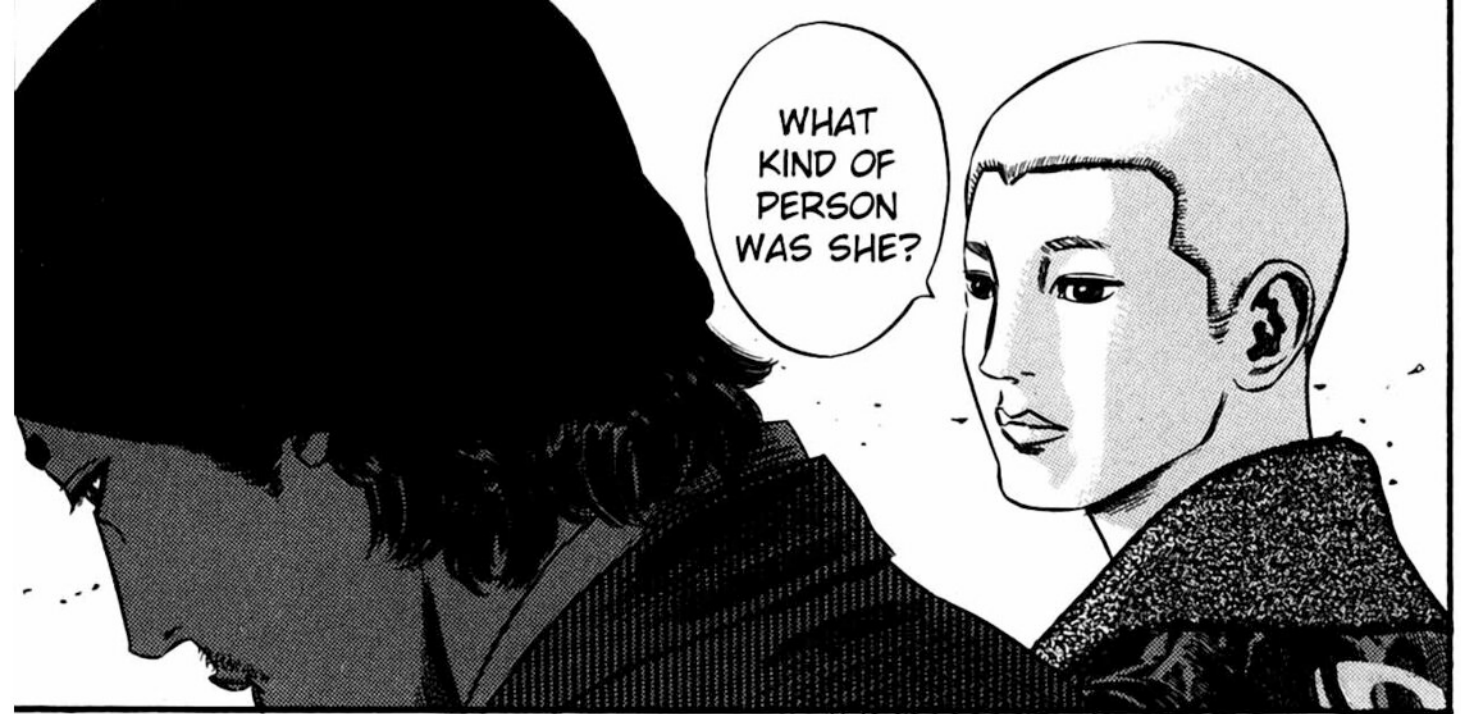
A WOMAN WHO
GAVE THE UGLY
ME A TRUE STARE,
WHILE I WAS STARING
DOWN AT MY FEET...





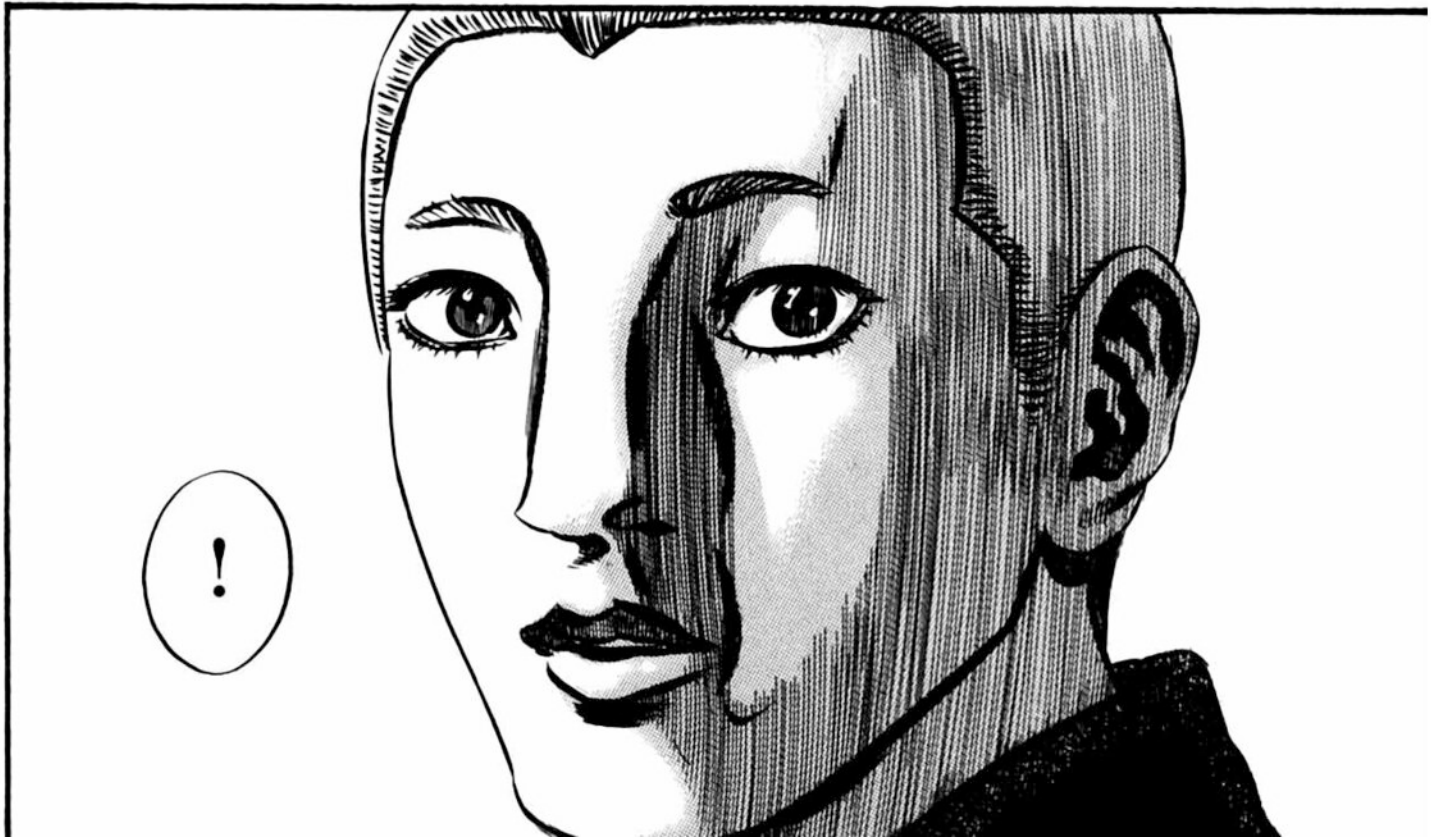
AT THAT
MOMENT,
I WAS.

WHAT
KIND OF
PERSON
WAS SHE?





A WOMAN
WHO COULD SEE
HOMUNCULI...

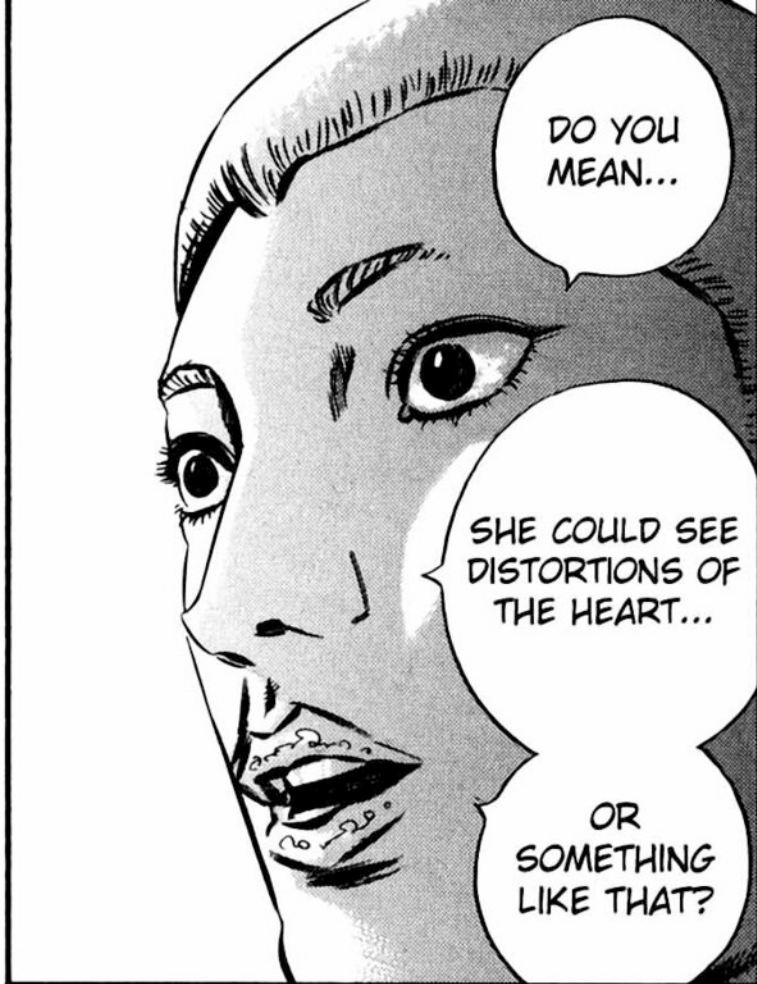


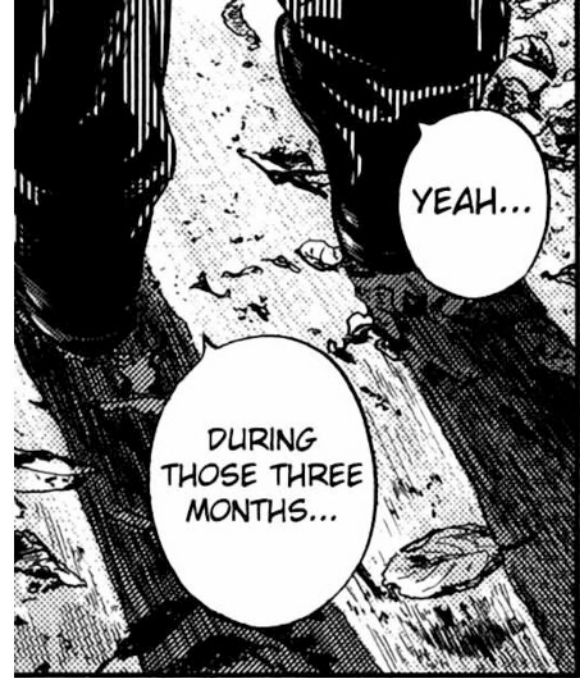
!

YEAH...

A
WOMAN WHO
COULD SEE
HOMUNCULI...?







YEAH...

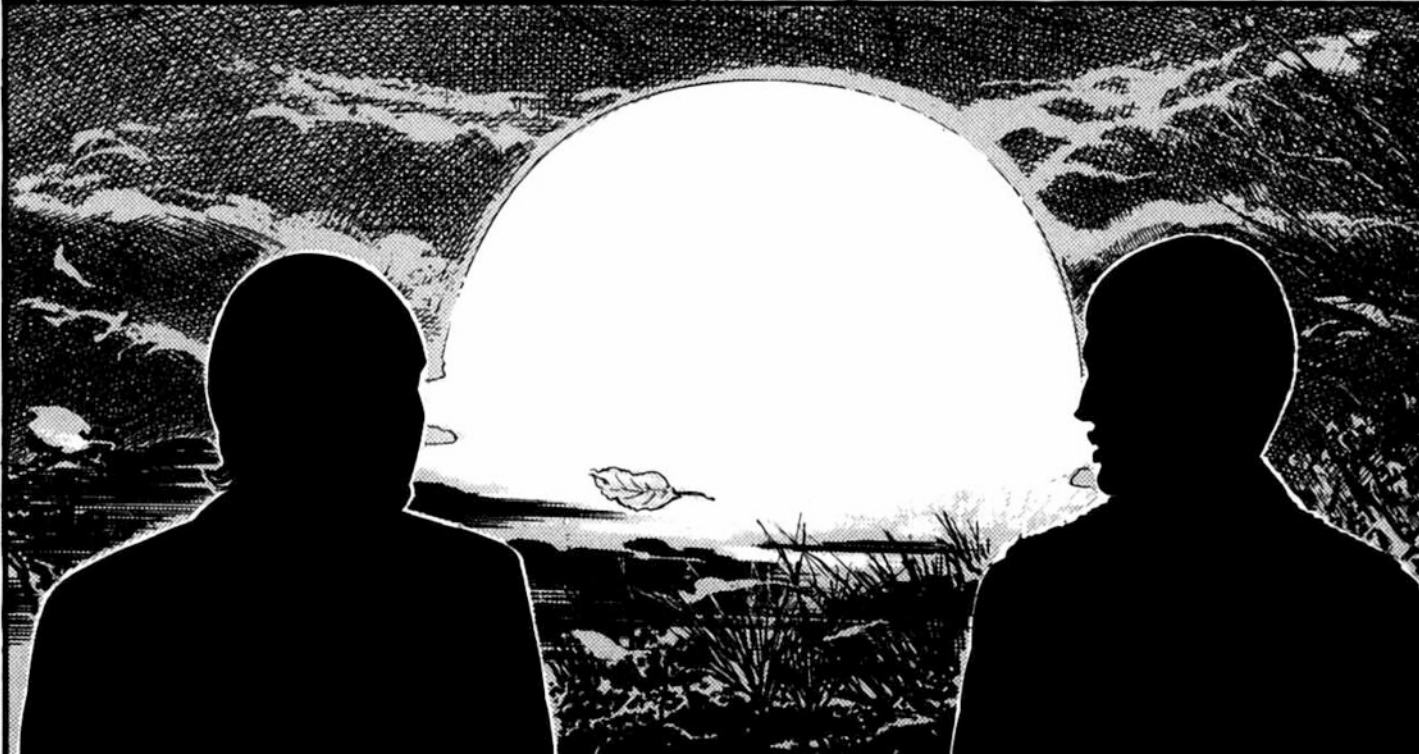
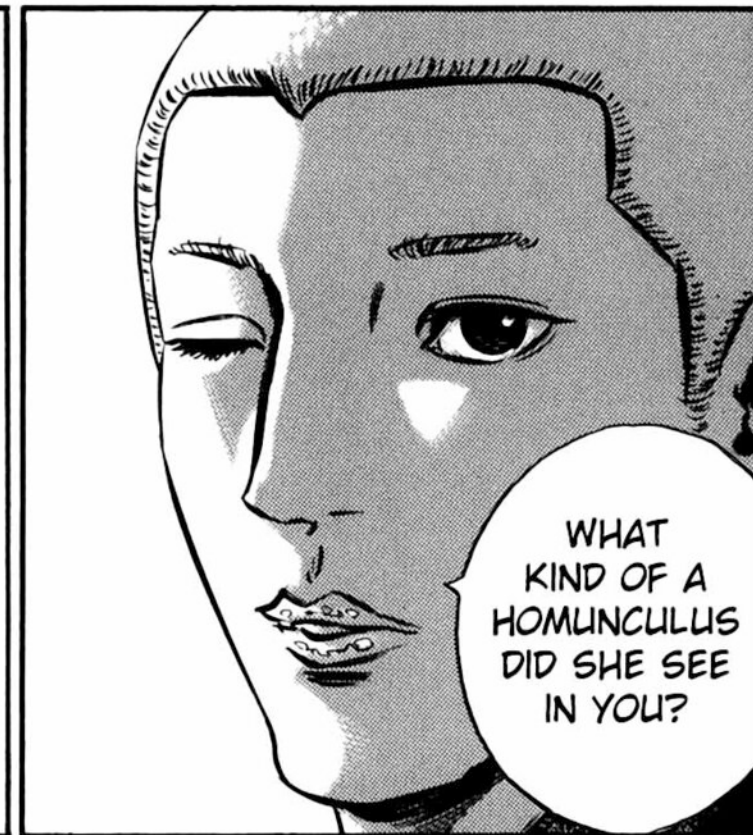
DURING
THOSE THREE
MONTHS...



DID YOU
SEE HER?



SHE SAW
AT ME...





MY
HOMUN-
CULUS...



DID YOU HAVE
A ROBOTIC ARM
AND A LEG MADE
OF SAND?

ニ
㍉



BACK
THEN...



WHY
NOOOOT?

EHHH
HHHH?



EHH!?

IS
SOMETHING
I CAN'T
TELL YOU
ABOUT.

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I MOST
CERTAINLY

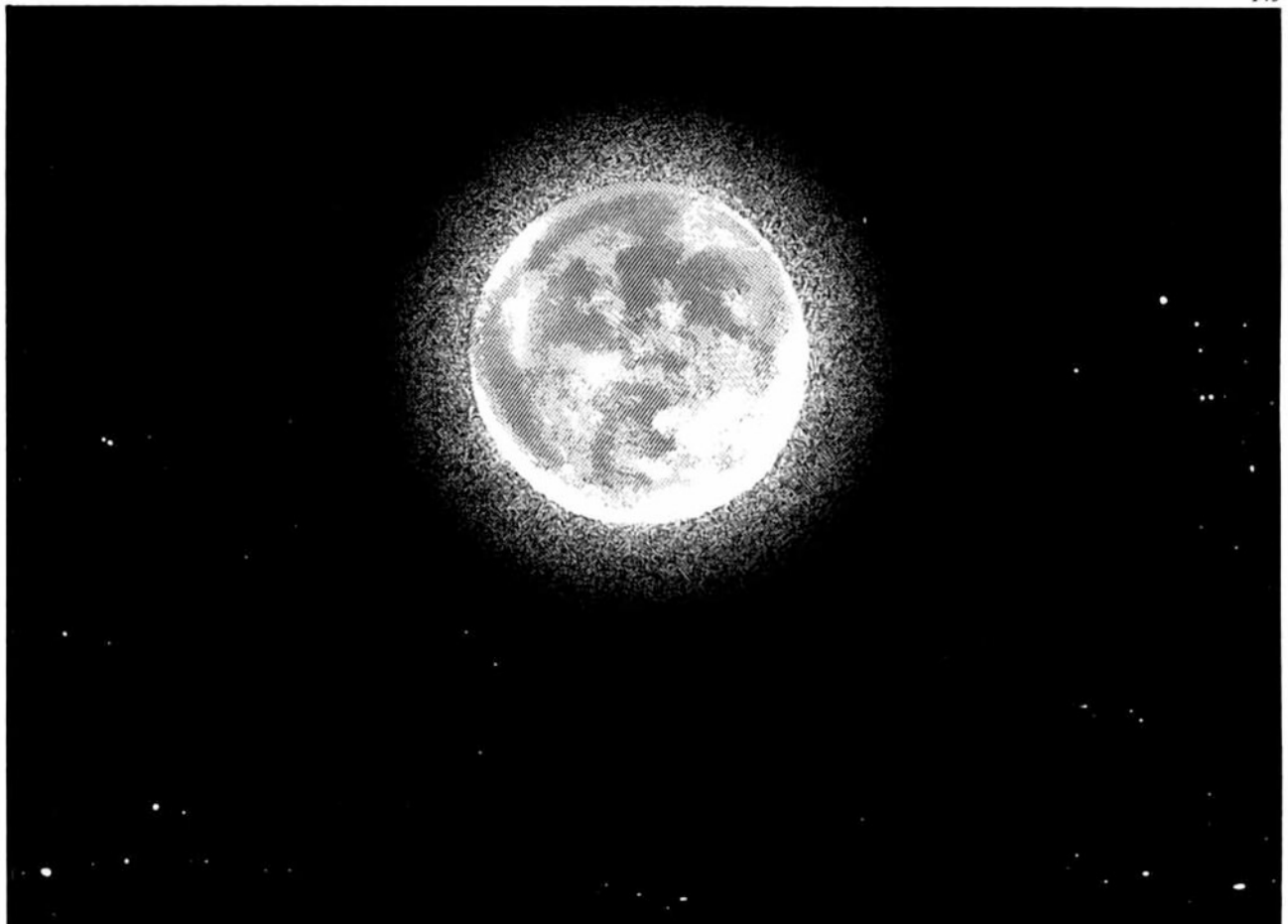
WILL
NOT...



PLEAAAAASE
TELL MEEEEEE!



C'MOOOON,
NAKOSHI-
SAAAAAN.

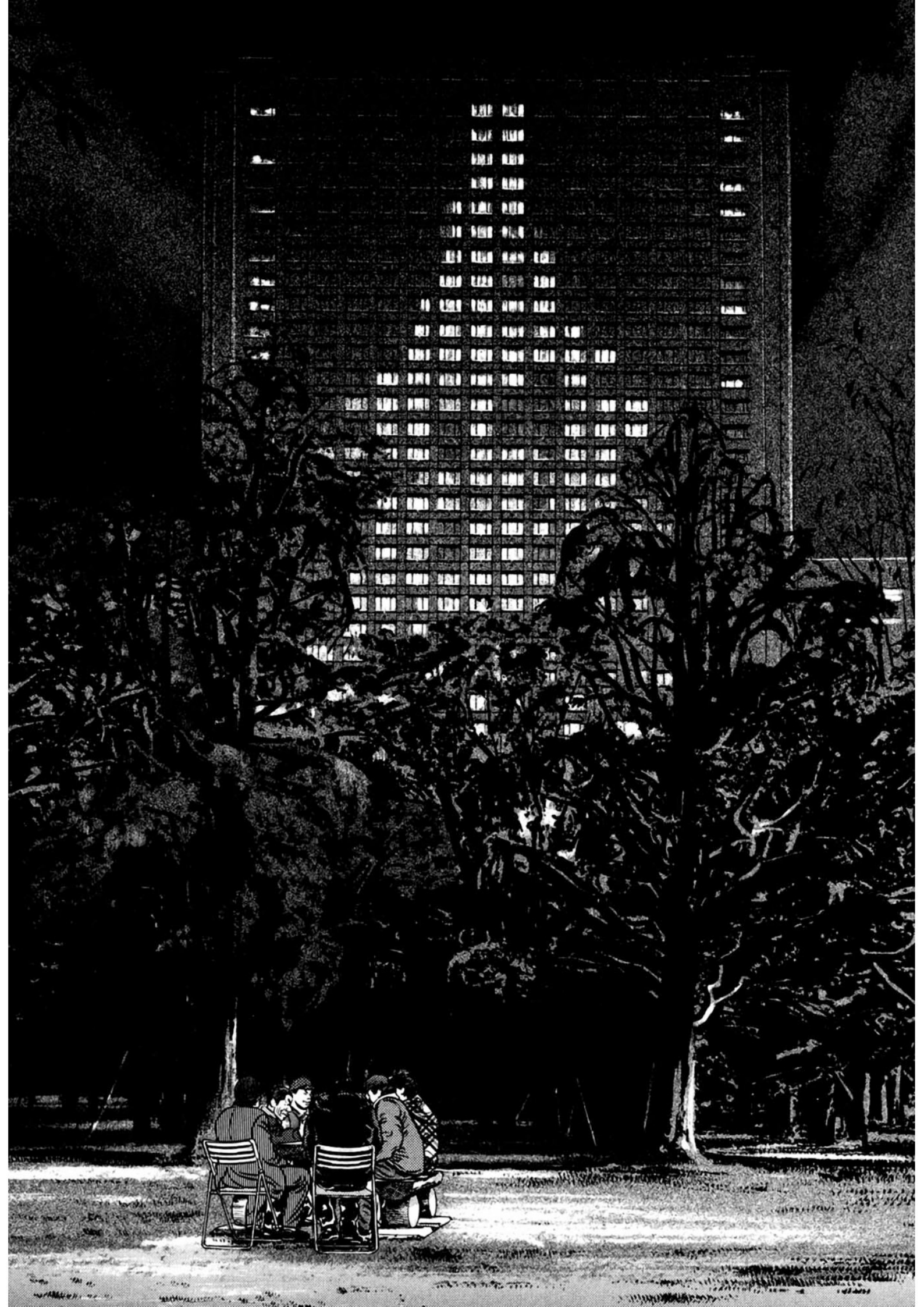




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YOU'VE
MADE A LOT
OF CUTIES CRY
UP UNTIL NOW,
HAVEN'T YA,
CAR BOY?

!



.....



SINCE
YOU'RE SO
HANDSOME.



IF IT'S
MODEL-LEVEL
WOMEN YOU'RE
TALKING ABOUT,
THEN I'VE SLEPT
WITH MORE THAN
I CAN COUNT.



AHHH,
THAT CUTIE
WITH THE
PONYTAIL!

THE RICE GIRL
AT THE EHIME
CHURCH TODAY
SHO' WAS A
LOOKER!



I BANGED
THE SHIT
OUTTA 'EM!

I HAD TWO
OR THREE DAMES
LIKE THAT WHEN
I WAS YOUNGER.



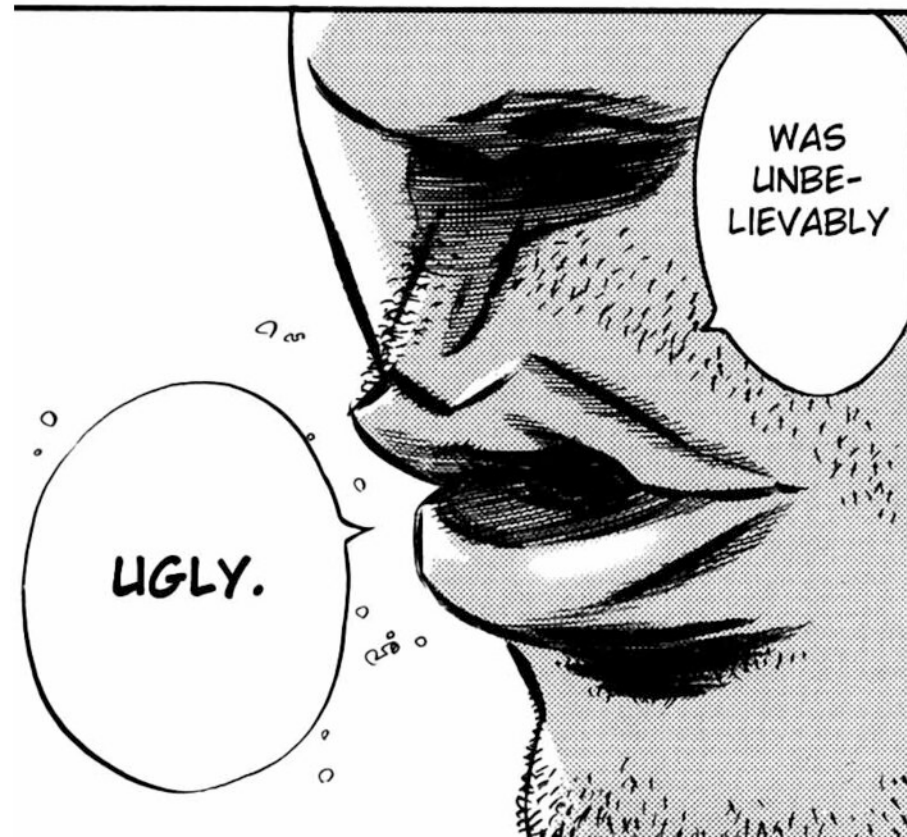
I'D LOVE
TO DO
SOME O'
THE OL'
IN-AN-OUT
WIT' HER!

BOY WAS
SHE A
LOOKER!



YOU
SERIOUS?

HELL
YEAH!



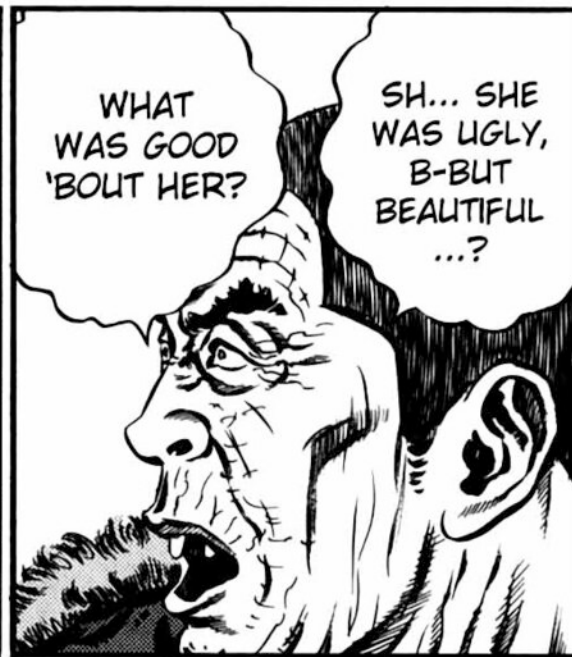


UGLYY
YYYYY!?

UUU...



THE SEX?
SHE HAD A
NICE HOLE?



WHAT
WAS GOOD
'BOUT HER?

SH... SHE
WAS UGLY,
B-BUT
BEAUTIFUL
...?



FROM THE
"SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL"
WOMEN YOU
OFTEN SEE...

WHAT I
MEAN BY UGLY,
I SUPPOSE, IS
THAT SHE WAS
DIFFERENT



SHE COULD
SEE PEOPLE'S
HEARTS.



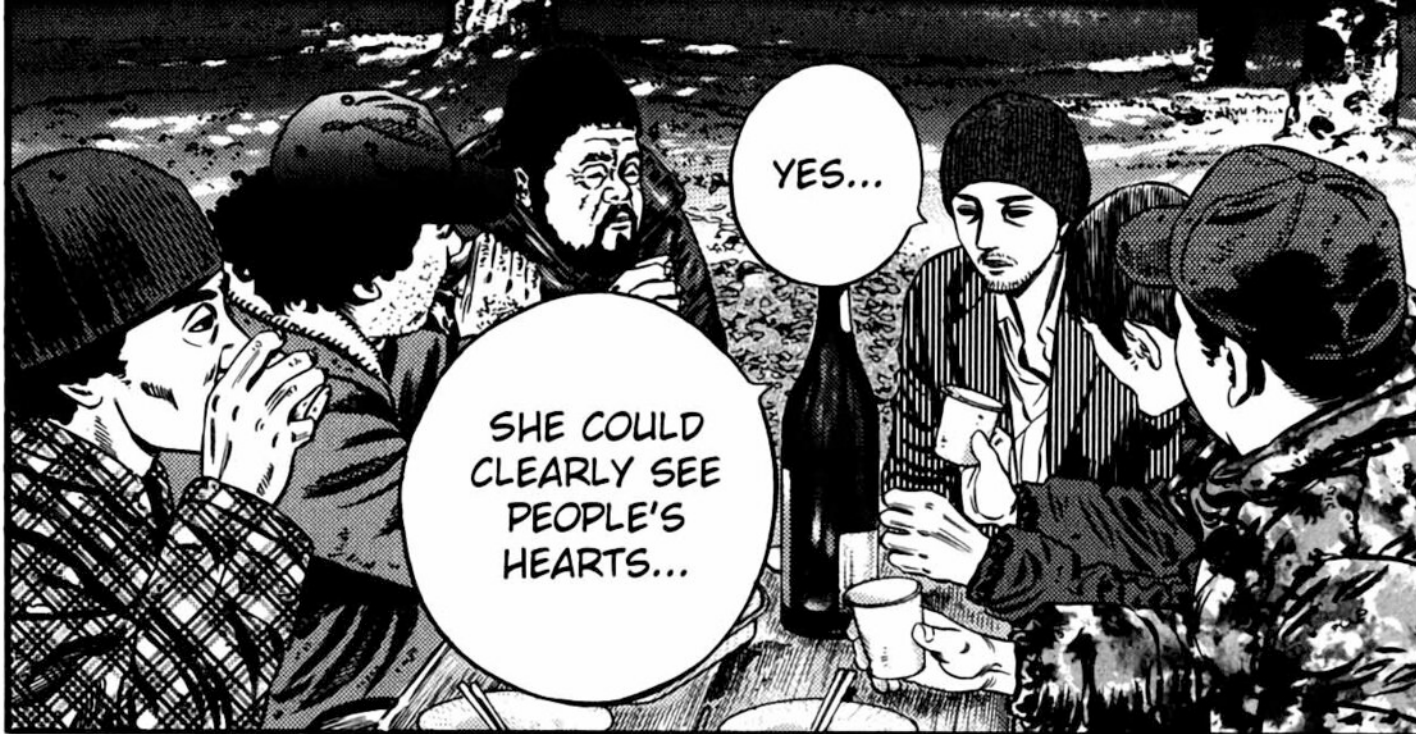
SEE
HEAAARTS!?



WHAT'D
YOU
SAY??



WHAAAA!?



SHE COULD CLEARLY SEE PEOPLE'S HEARTS...

YES...



IT WAS A LEVEL BEYOND THAT KIND OF HUMAN OBSERVATION...



ANYONE KIN SEE SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT.



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE ATMOSPHERE!

BY CHECKIN' THE ATMOSPHERE, YOU KNOW, PEOPLE WHO LOOK MEAN, PEOPLE WHO LOOK NICE...



SHE COULD SEE HUMAN HEARTS IN CLEARLY DEFINED FORMS.



THAT
WOMAN...



!



HOW
DID SHE
SEE THESE
HEARTS?





WOULD APPEAR IN WEIRD SHAPES...

THE DISTORTIONS IN PEOPLE'S HEARTS...



LIKE THIS...



IT WAS LIKE,

THIS...



NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT...

THAT SPIRITUAL SUPERNATURAL MUMBO JUMBO??

IS THAT UH, YOU KNOW?



A HALLUCINATION!

A DELUSION!

THAT WAS JUST HER IMAGINATION.



...WHAT ...



...O...



SMIRK



SHE HELPED TO
SERVE RICE AT
CHURCH-SPONSORED
VOLUNTEER EVENTS.



V...
VOLUN-
TEER...



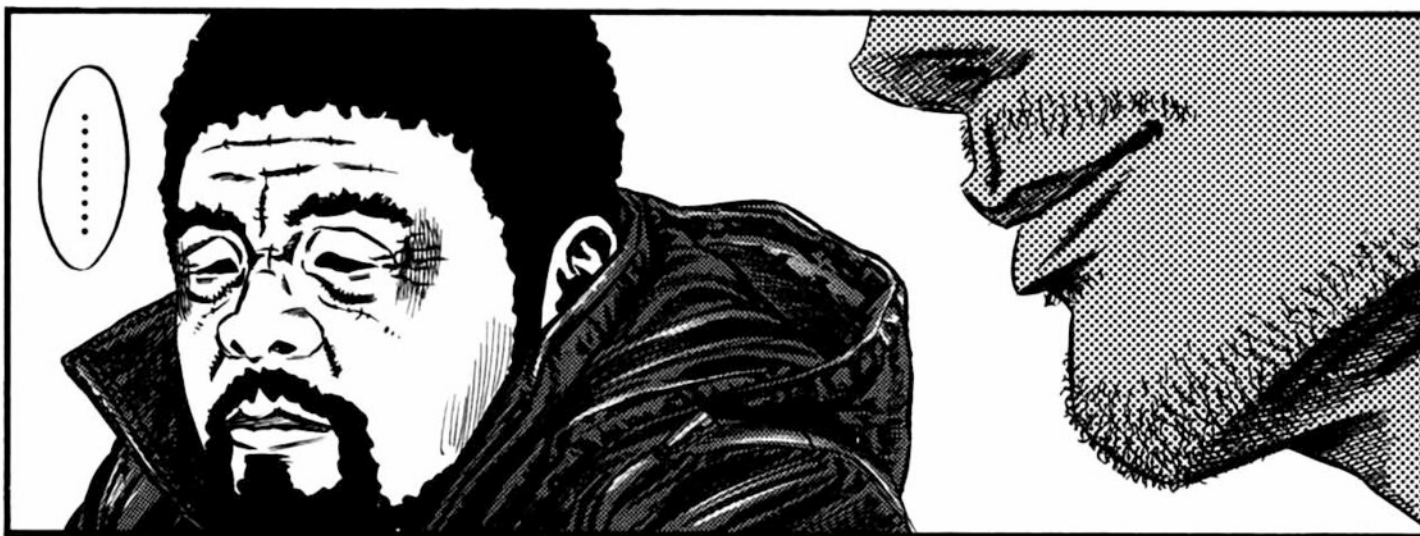
RICE...?

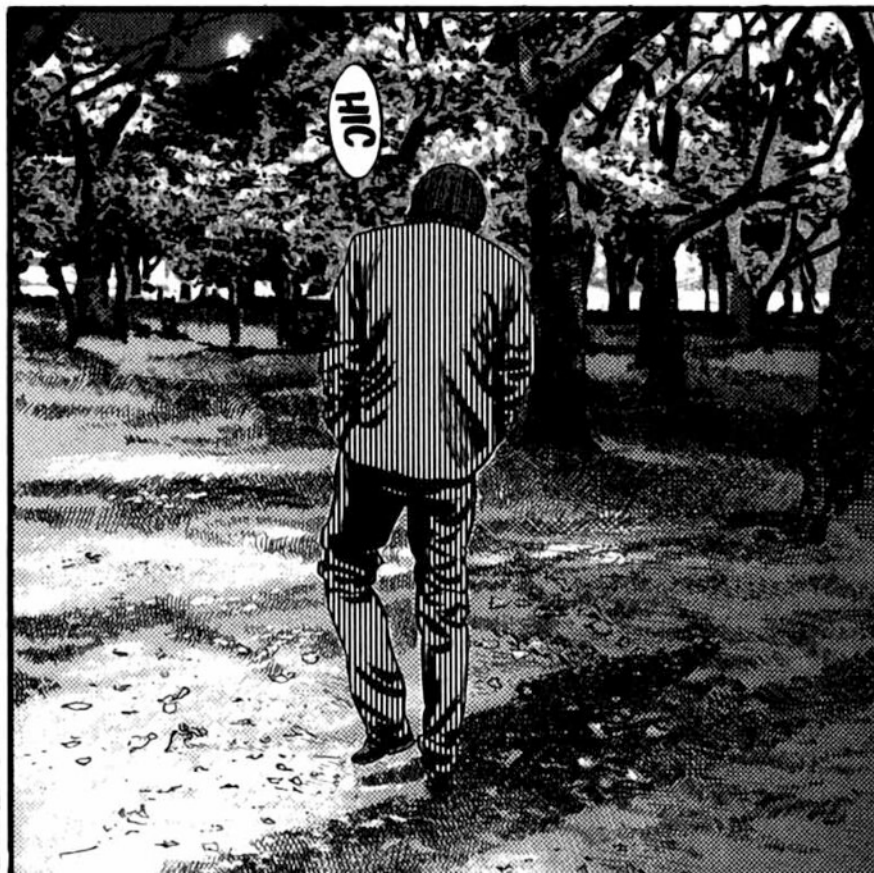
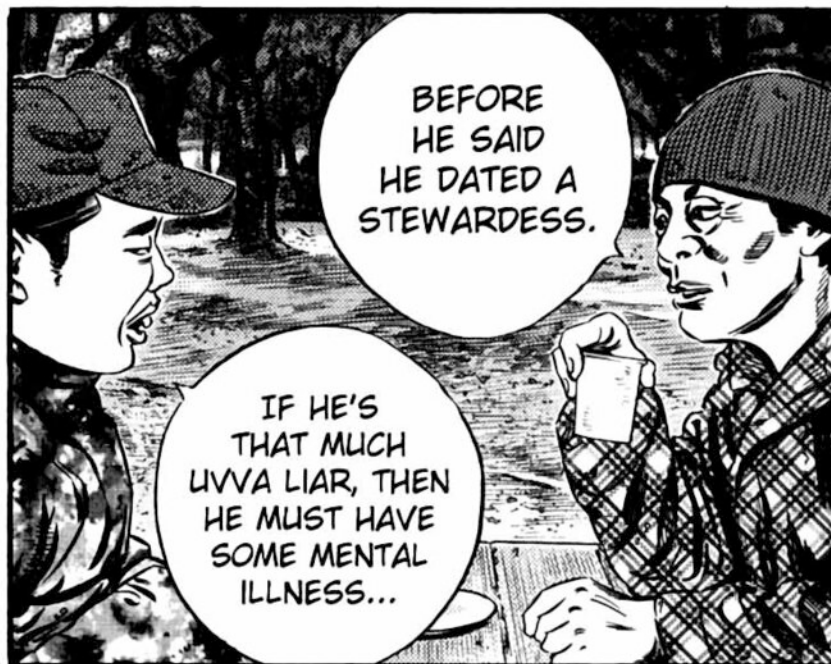


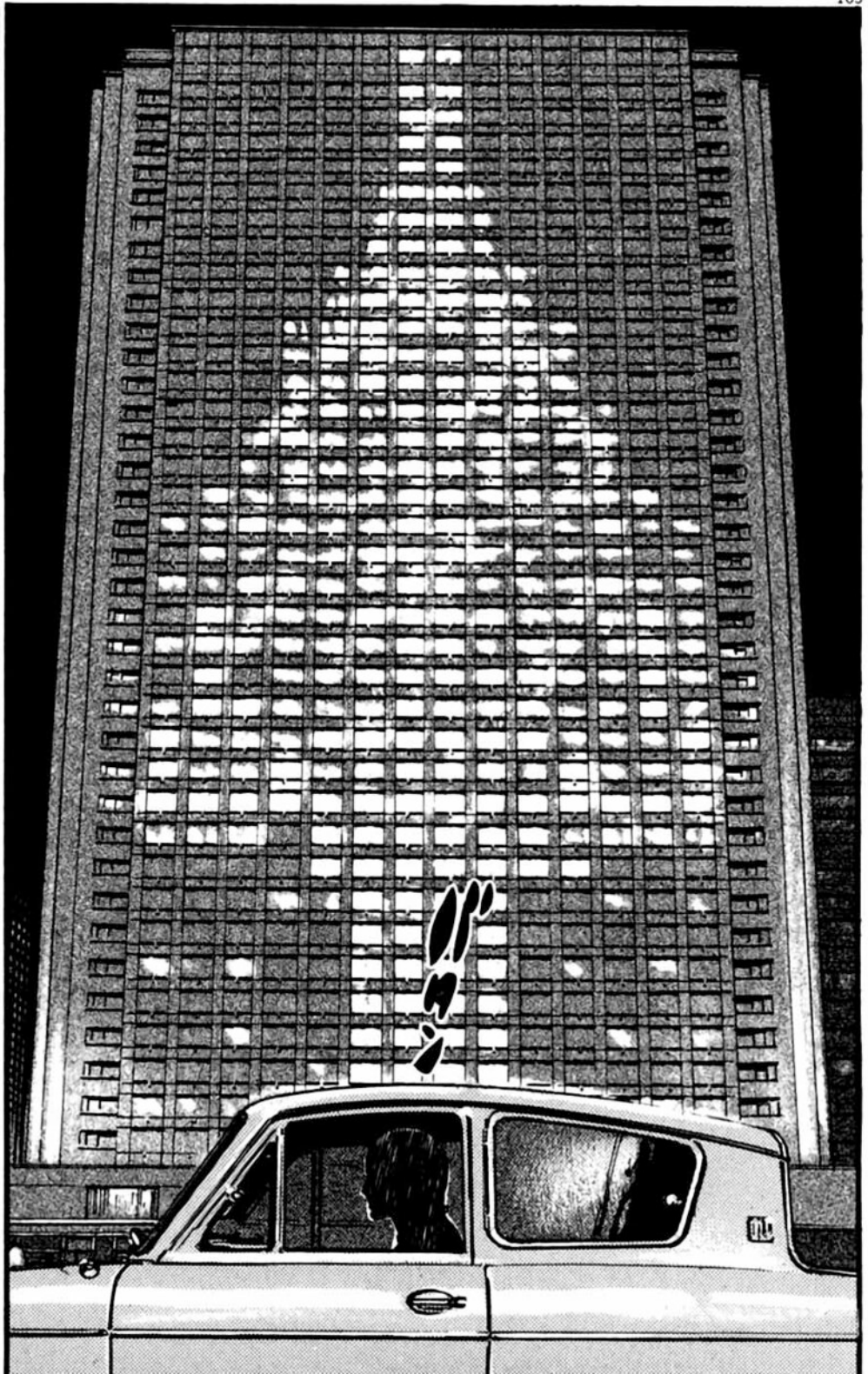
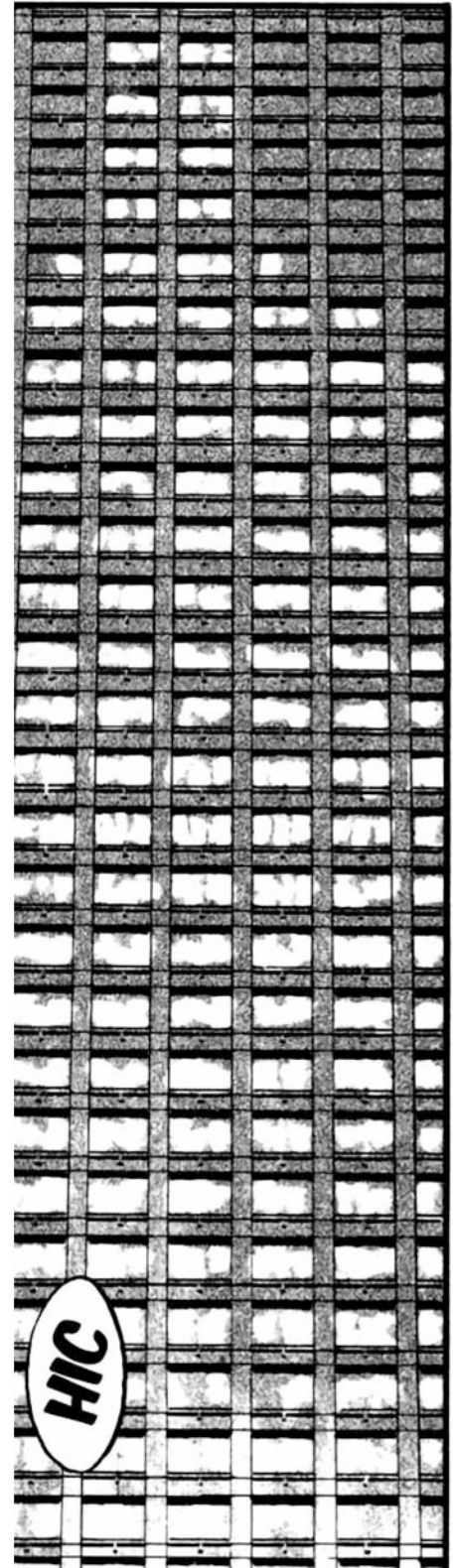
FUAAA
AAAH.



I'M GONNA
GO TO THE
BATHROOM.





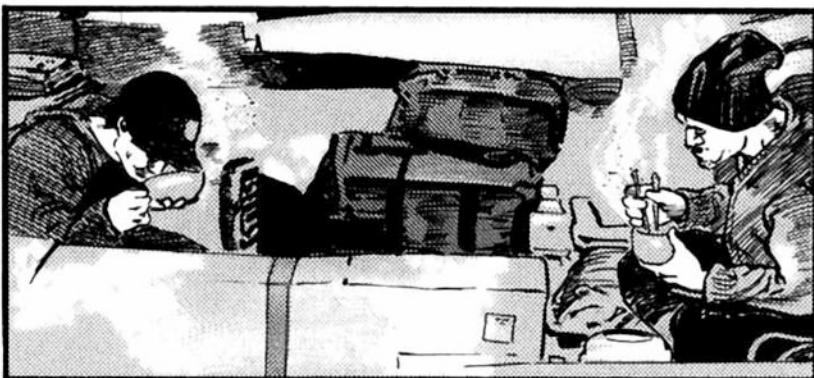


HIC



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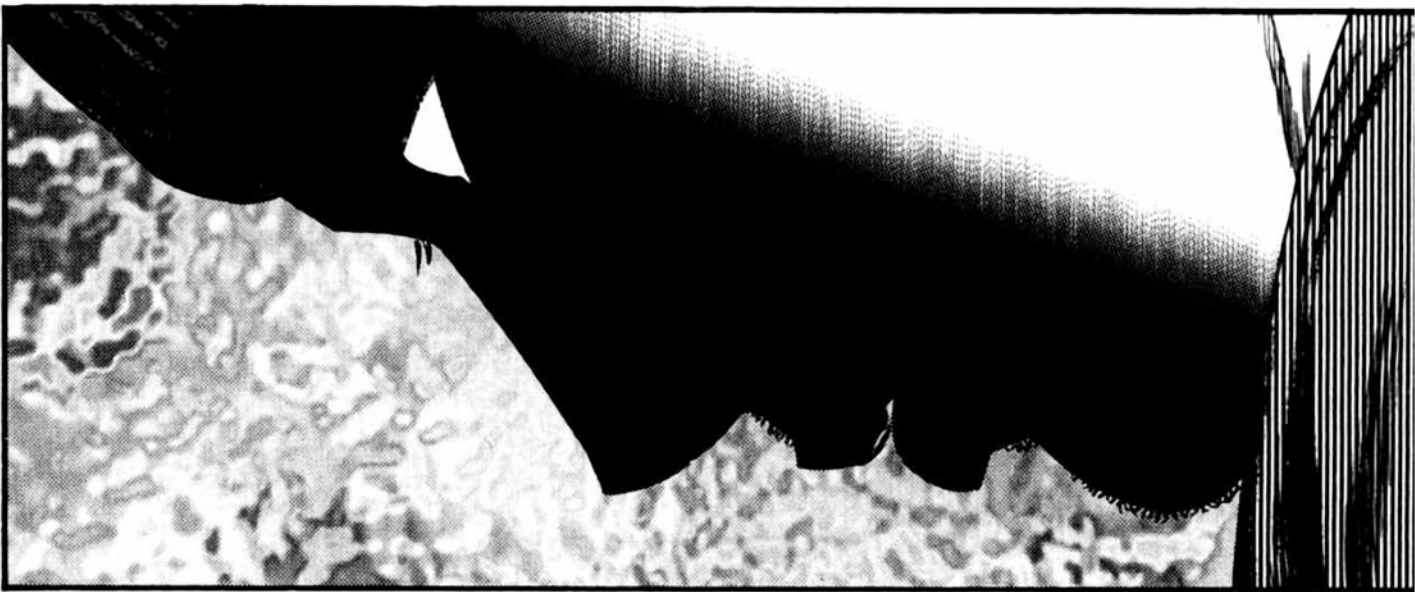












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Nako-chan is
a "cloud."

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A
"cloud."



but
unattainable...



All white
and pure...





AND
RIGHT
HAND,



MY LEFT
HAND,



DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
A CLOUD
TO ME...



NOW...

ARE
DISTORT-
ED



HMM?



HUH...??



HM...?



DISAP-
PEARED...?



THEY...



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WH...



WHAT'S HAPPENING...?



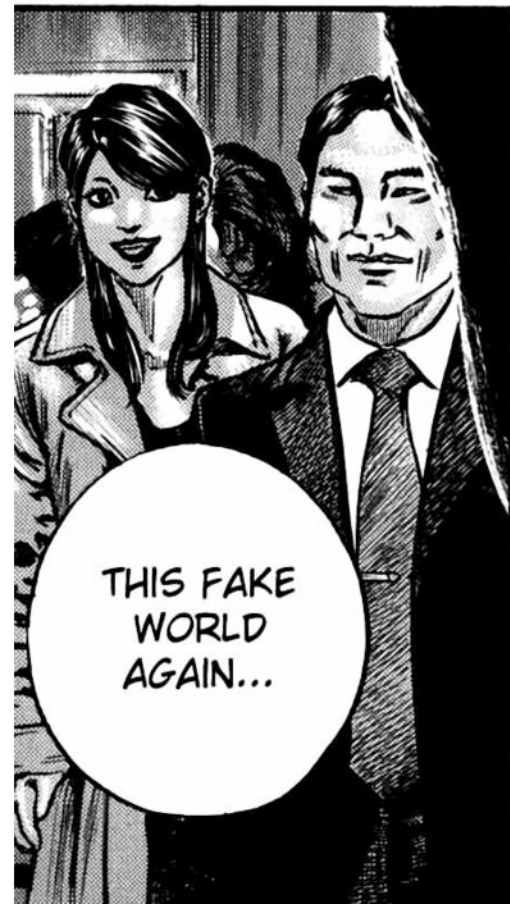






IF THE
HOMUNCULI
ARE GONE...

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THIS FAKE
WORLD
AGAIN...



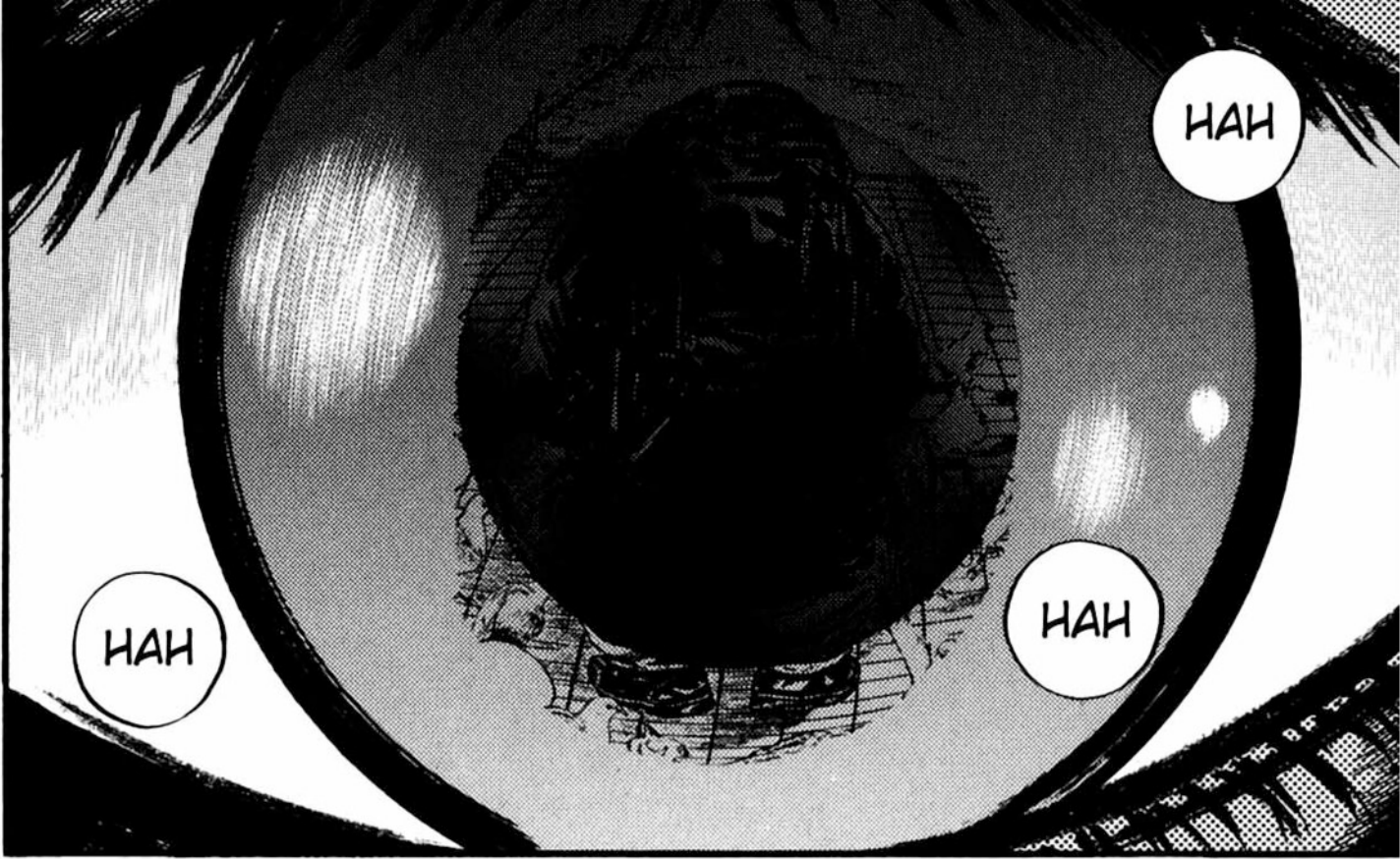
FLUNG
BACK
INTO...



THEN
I'LL
BE...



DON'T
LEAVE ME
ALONE LIKE
THIS...



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WHY
CAN'T
I SEE
THEM...?

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WHY
AREN'T THEY
THERE...?





YOU'RE NAKOSHI-SAN...

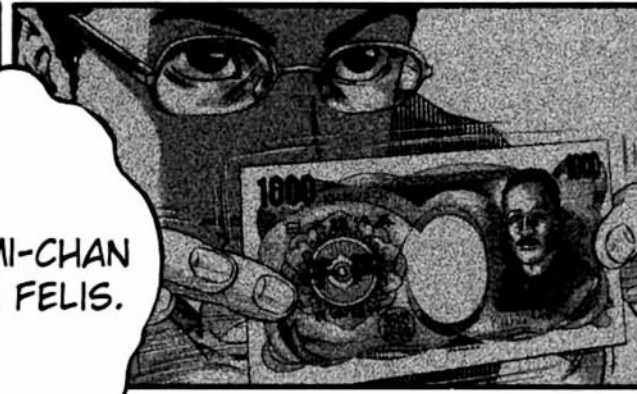
AREN'T YOU?

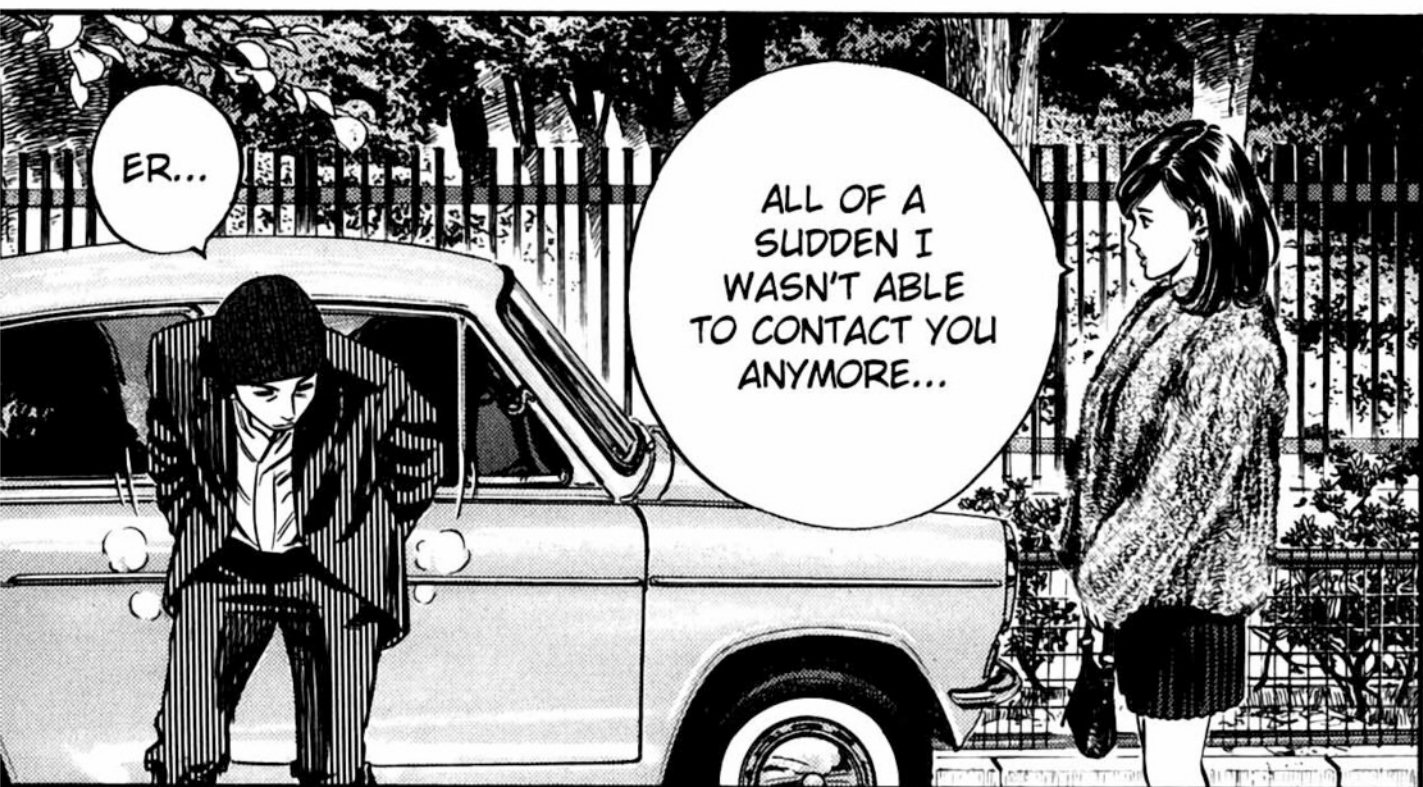


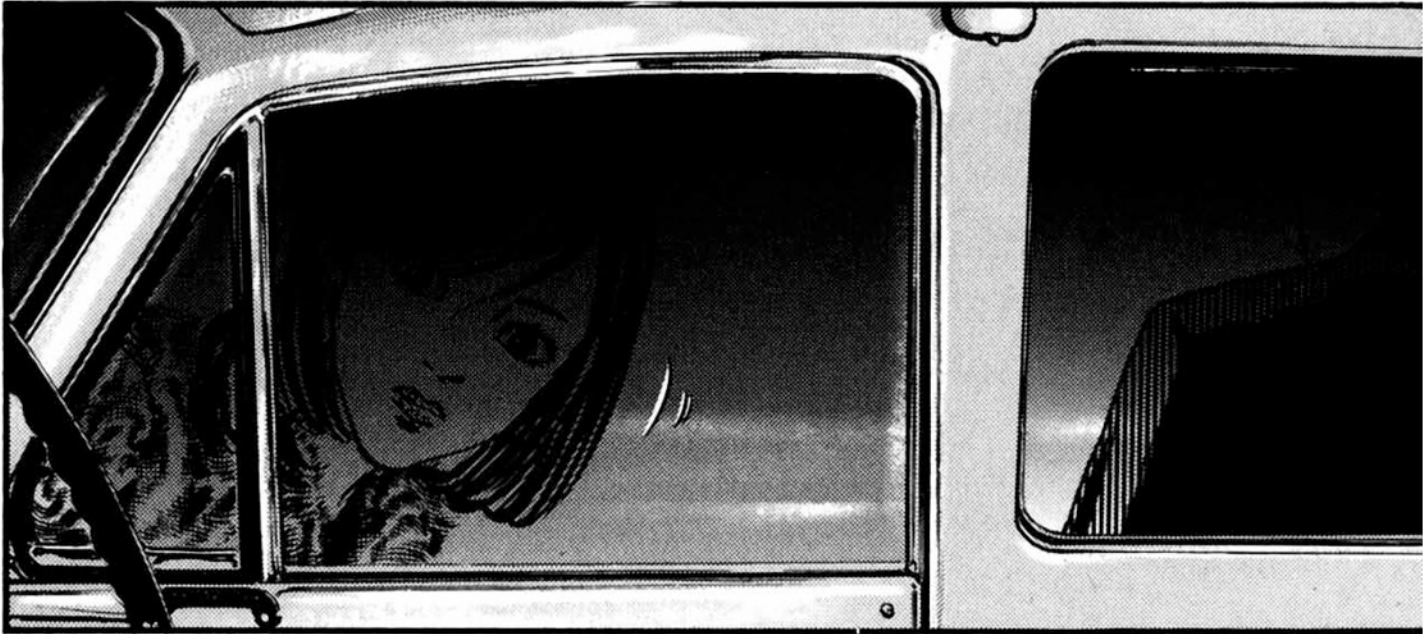
AH.



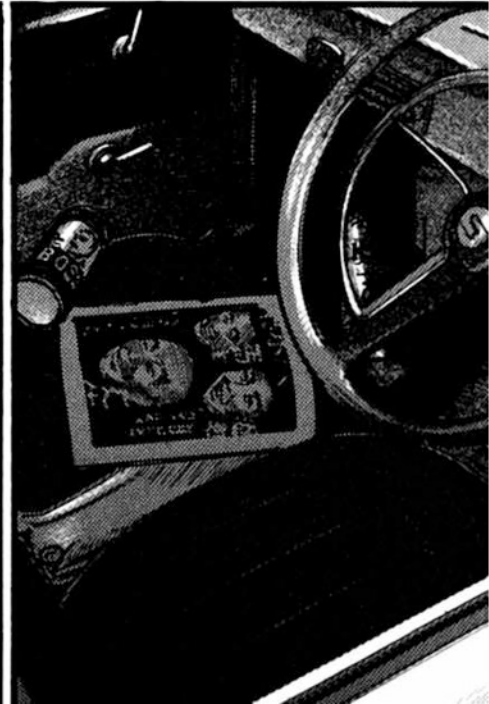
HIROMI-CHAN FROM FELIS.

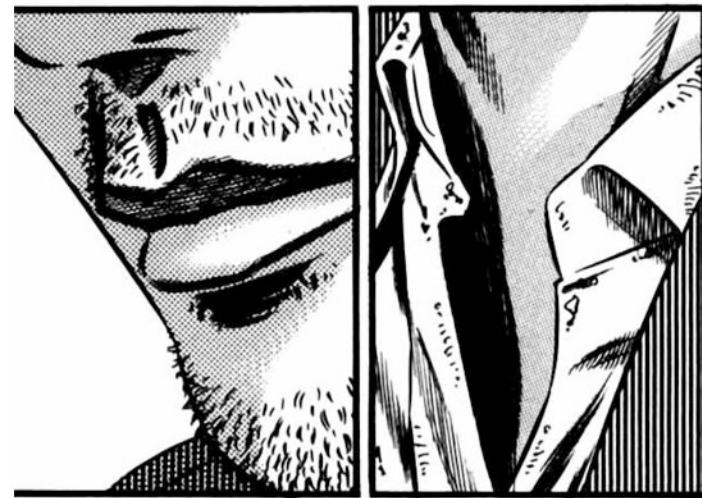






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NAKOSHI-SAN.

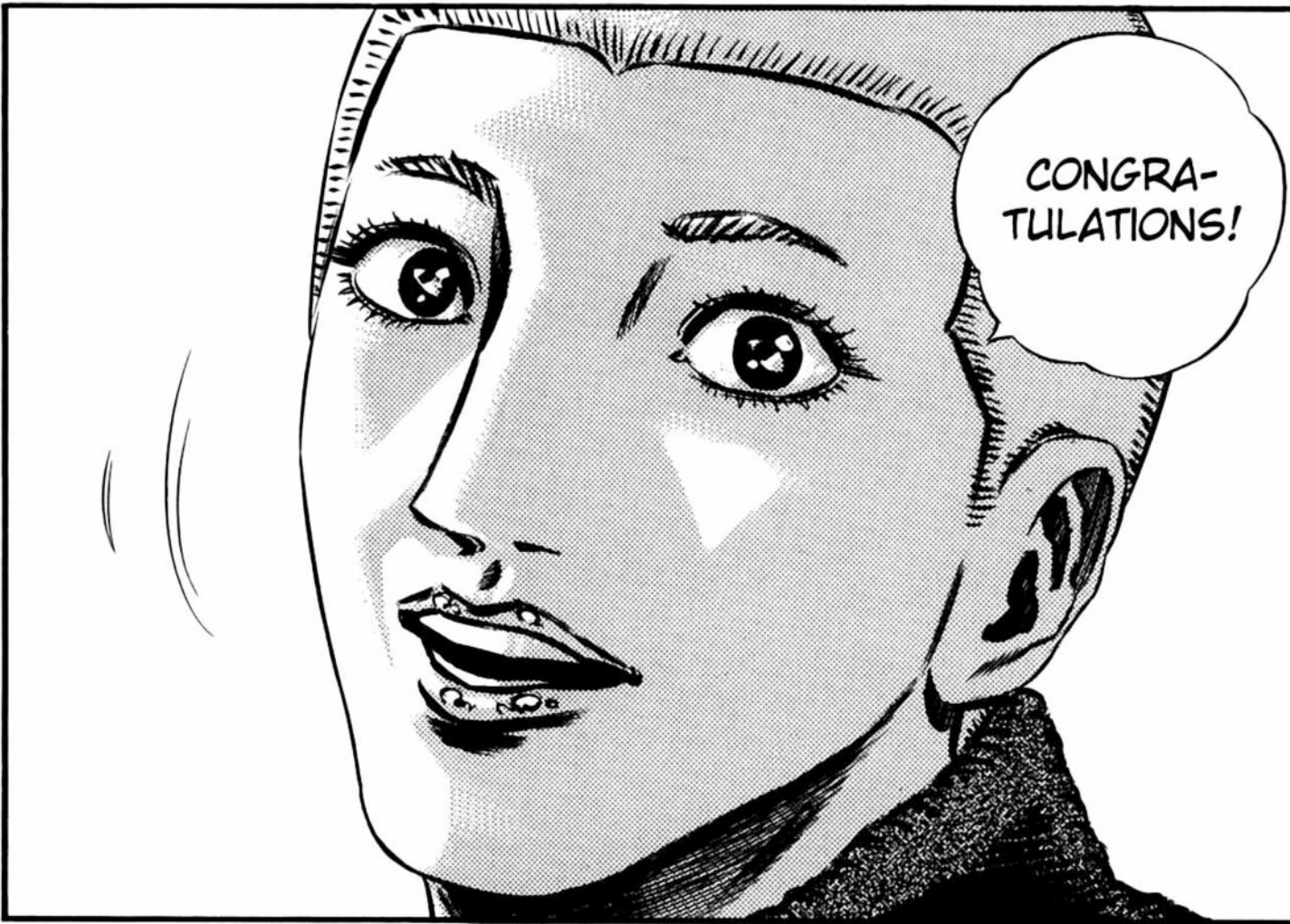


SEE YA.











WHAT...?

THIS MEANS YOUR PROBLEM IS SOLVED, DOESN'T IT!?



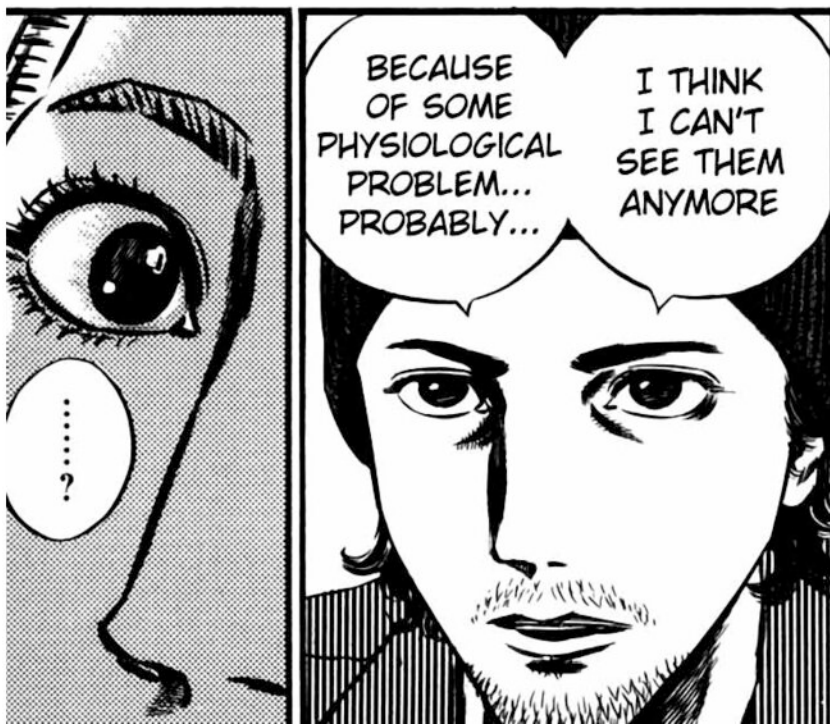
!

NOTHING ABOUT MY PROBLEM HAS BEEN SOLVED!



LET'S CELEBRATE WITH A DRINK!

NO, THIS IS REALLY A GREAT THING.



.....

BECAUSE OF SOME PHYSIOLOGICAL PROBLEM... PROBABLY...

I THINK I CAN'T SEE THEM ANYMORE



THIS HOLE HAS SEALED UP...

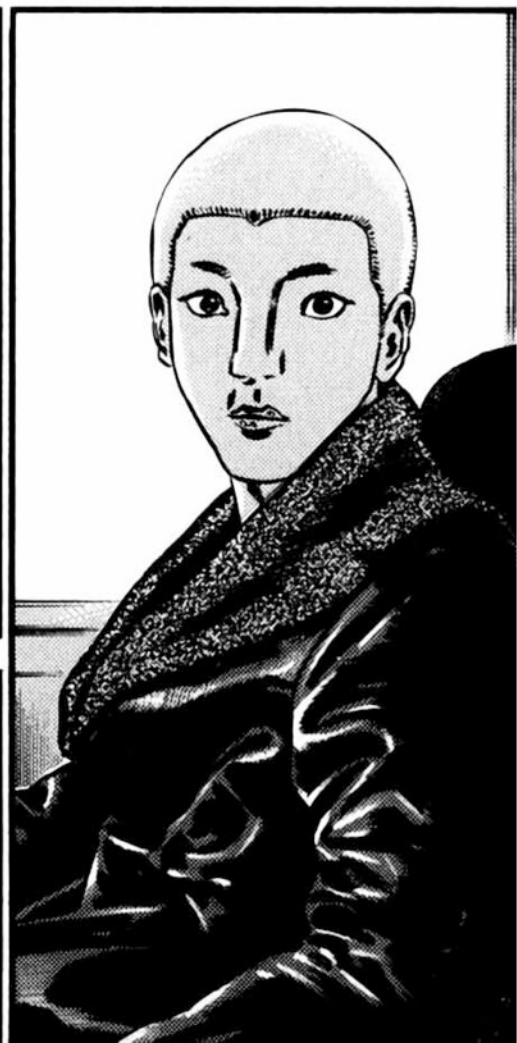


I'M SURE...



WELL THAT'S STILL A GOOD THING THEN!

HAHA,



THOSE MONSTERS THAT CREEPED YOU OUT ARE GONE.

サラリーマン風(超デブ)

厚ま

顔が



OR...
COULD IT BE
THAT YOU MISS
THEM NOW...



.....



DON'T
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
LUCKY!?

NAKOSHI-
SAN,



!



THE
HOMUNCULI...



HUH??



OPEN THE HOLE!



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NOOOOO...
THAT'S
DANGER-
OUUUUS...

EHHHH?



I SAID
OPEN THE
HOLE!



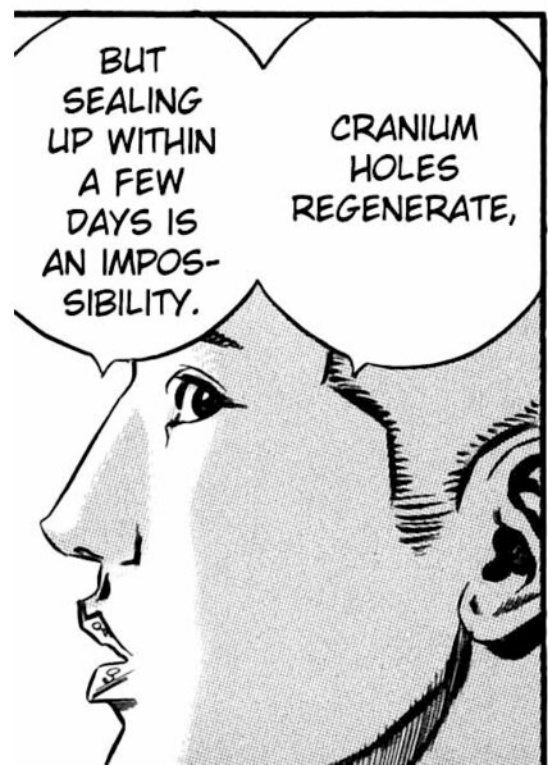
THIS IS SOMETHING YOU STARTED!

DANGEROUS...



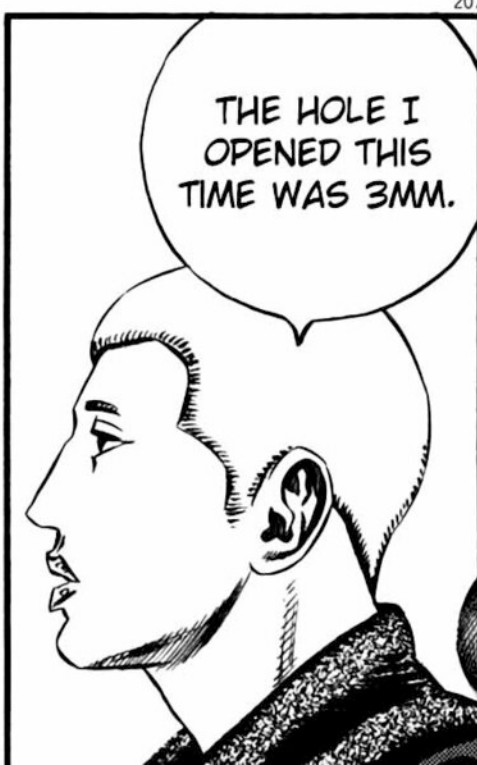
I DON'T THINK THE HOLE IS SEALED UP.

ALSO...



BUT SEALING UP WITHIN A FEW DAYS IS AN IMPOSSIBILITY.

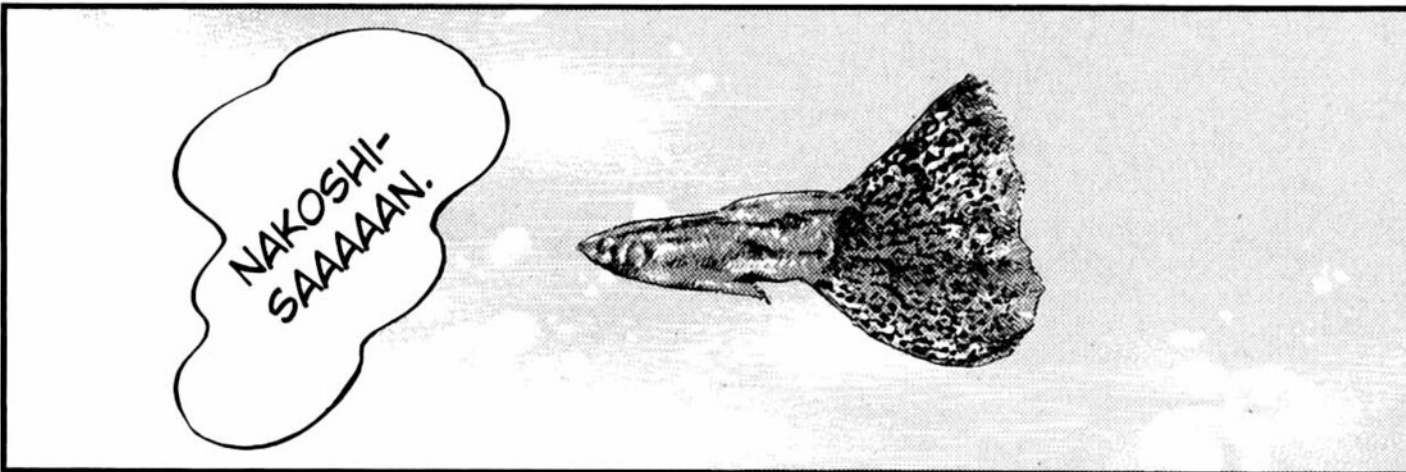
CRANIUM HOLES REGENERATE,



THE HOLE I OPENED THIS TIME WAS 3MM.



OPEN THIS
UP AND
SEE FOR
YOURSELF,
THEN!

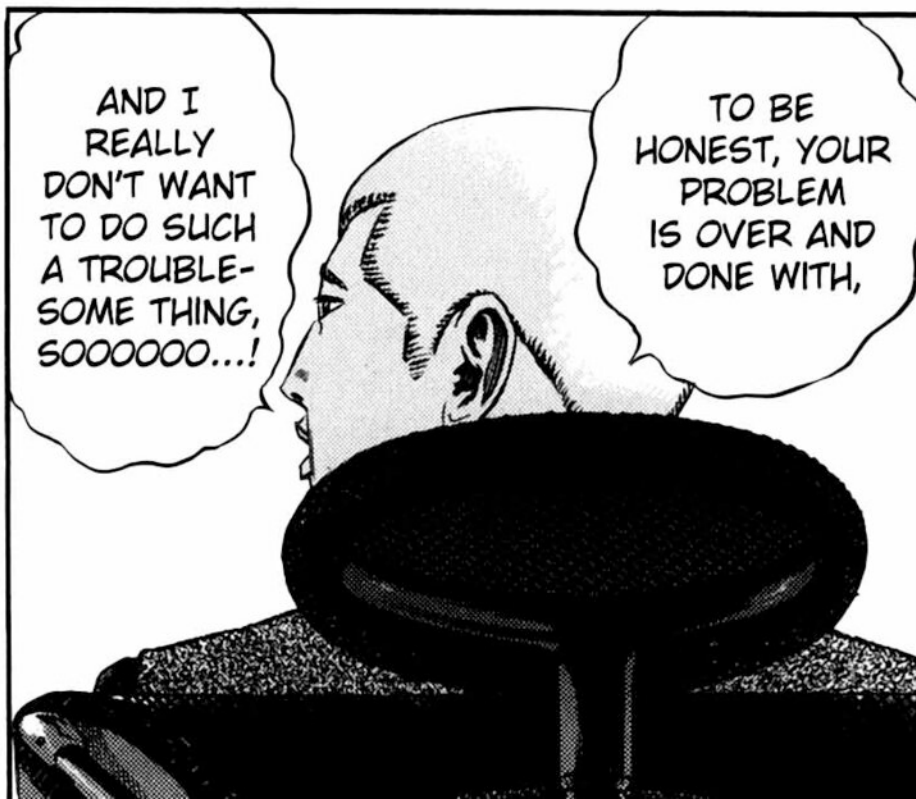


NAKOSHI-
SAAAAAN.

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DAMN
YOU...



AND I
REALLY
DON'T WANT
TO DO SUCH
A TROUBLE-
SOME
THING,
SOOOOOO...!

TO BE
HONEST,
YOUR
PROBLEM
IS OVER AND
DONE WITH,



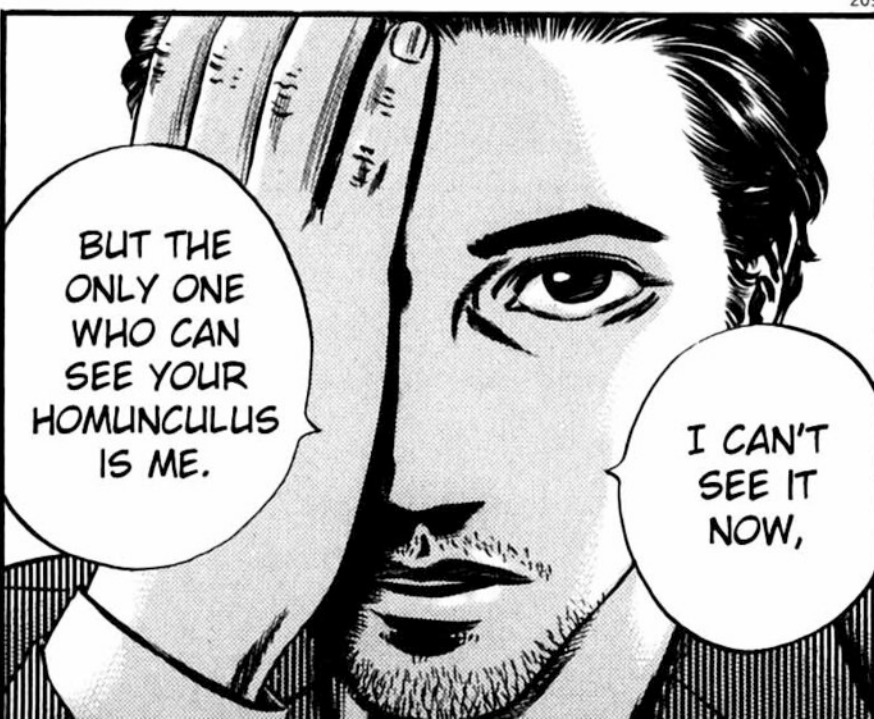
YOU
AREN'T
FINISHED
YET.



I HAVE TO
MOVE ON TO THE
NEXT THING...



THERE
ARE STILL
SOME MINUTE
DEFORMITIES
LEFT.



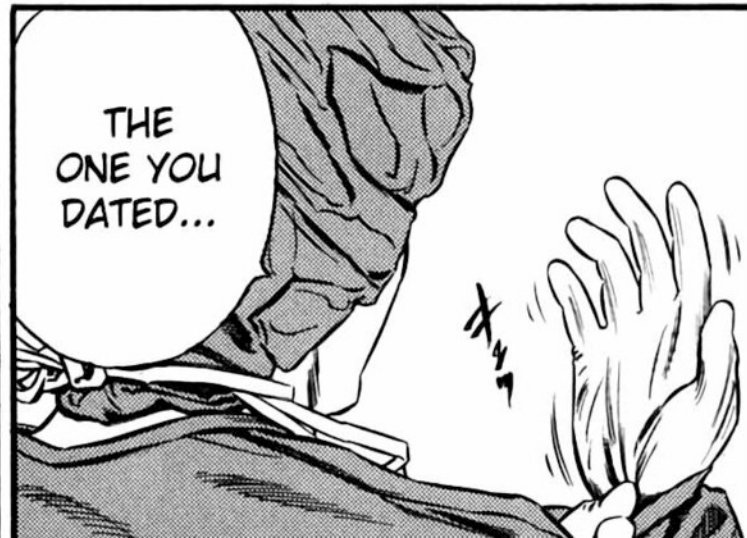
BUT THE
ONLY ONE
WHO CAN
SEE YOUR
HOMUNCULUS
IS ME.



I CAN'T
SEE IT
NOW,



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COME FROM
THE TREPANATION
HOLE AFTER ALL.

SO IT
DIDN'T

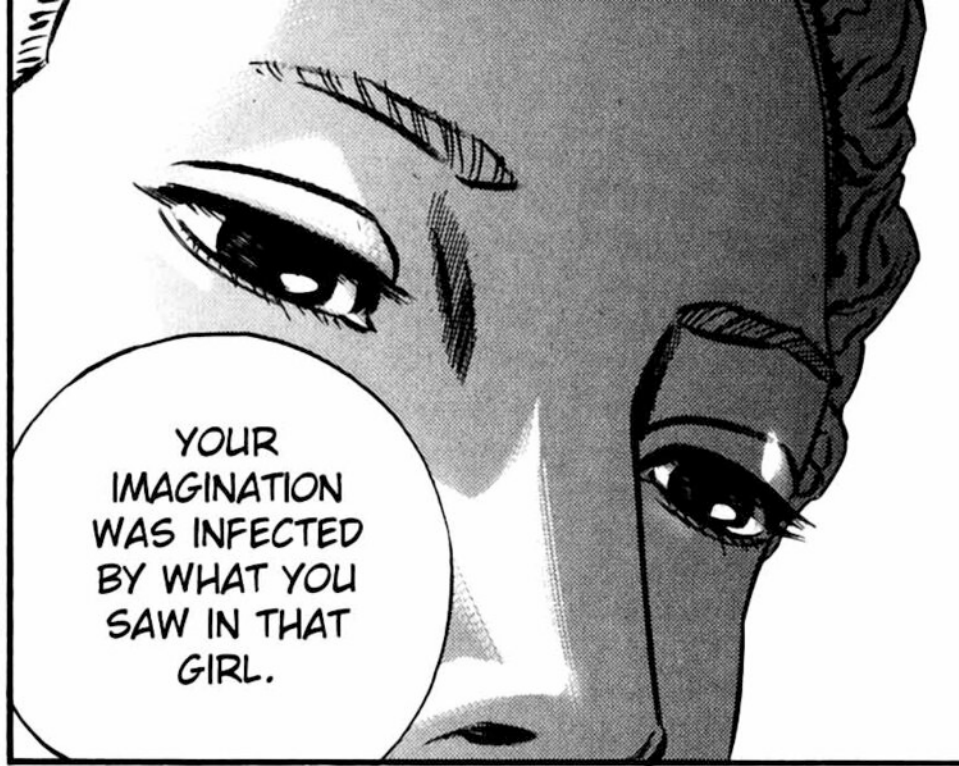


THROUGH
THE PLACEBO
EFFECT FROM THE
TREPANATION,

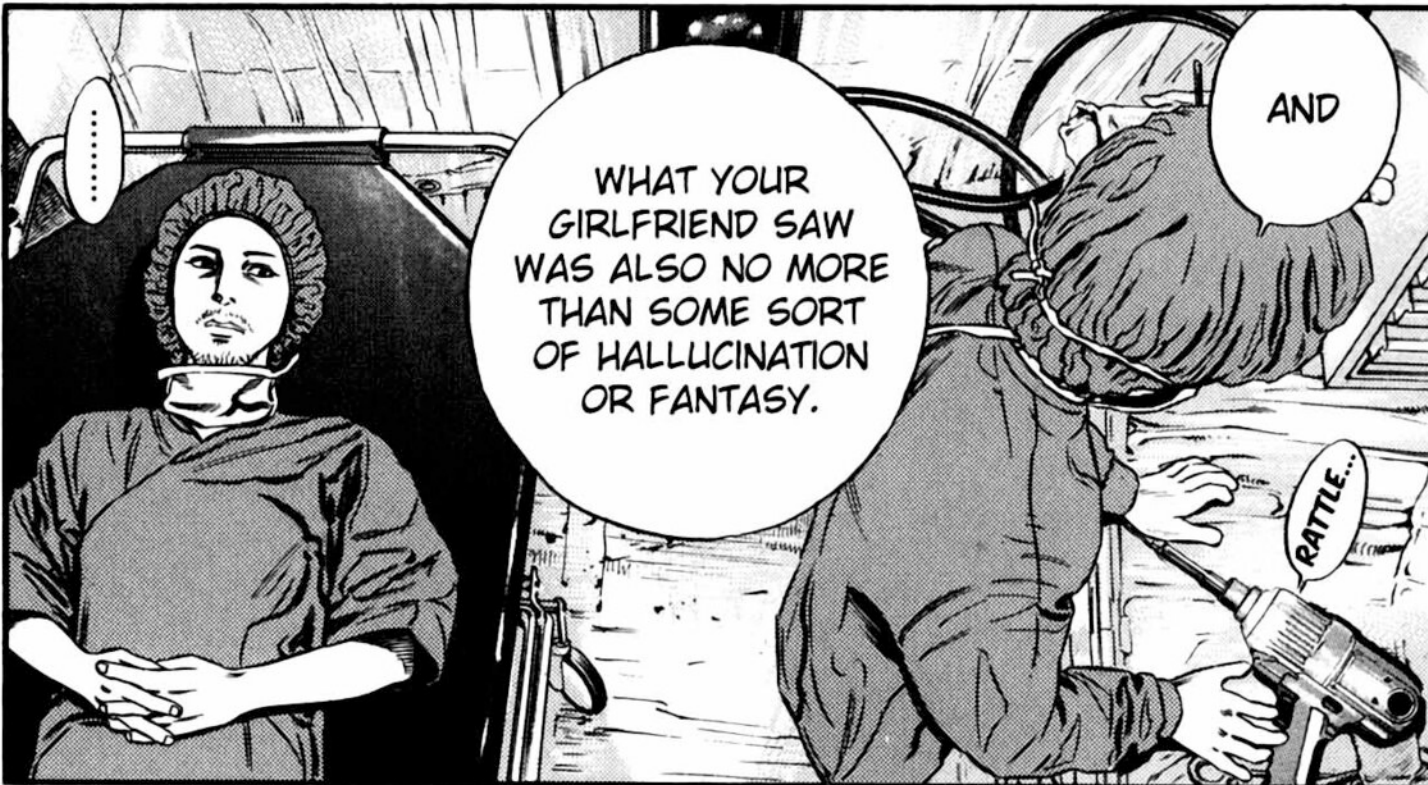
YOUR OLD
GIRLFRIEND'S
Homunculus
SPECIAL ABILITY
APPEARED WITHIN
YOU. THAT'S ALL
THERE IS TO IT.



!?



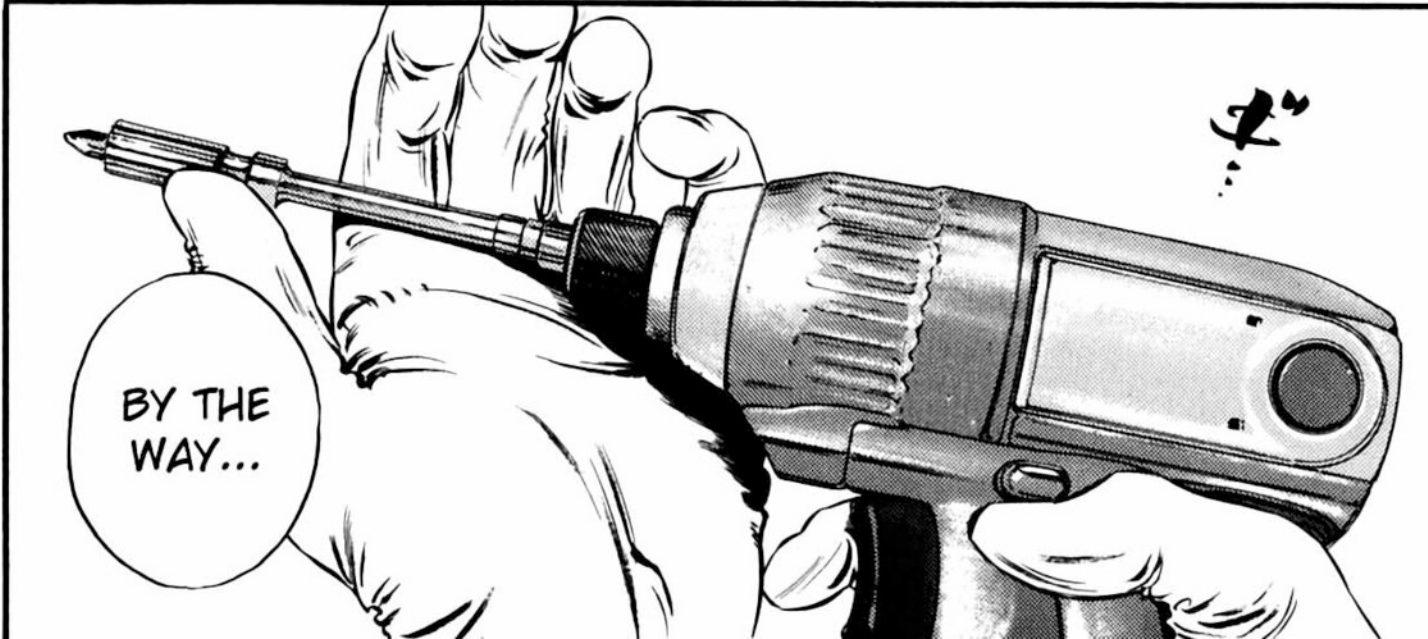
YOUR
IMAGINATION
WAS INFECTED
BY WHAT YOU
SAW IN THAT
GIRL.



WHAT YOUR
GIRLFRIEND SAW
WAS ALSO NO MORE
THAN SOME SORT
OF HALLUCINATION
OR FANTASY.

AND

RATTLE...

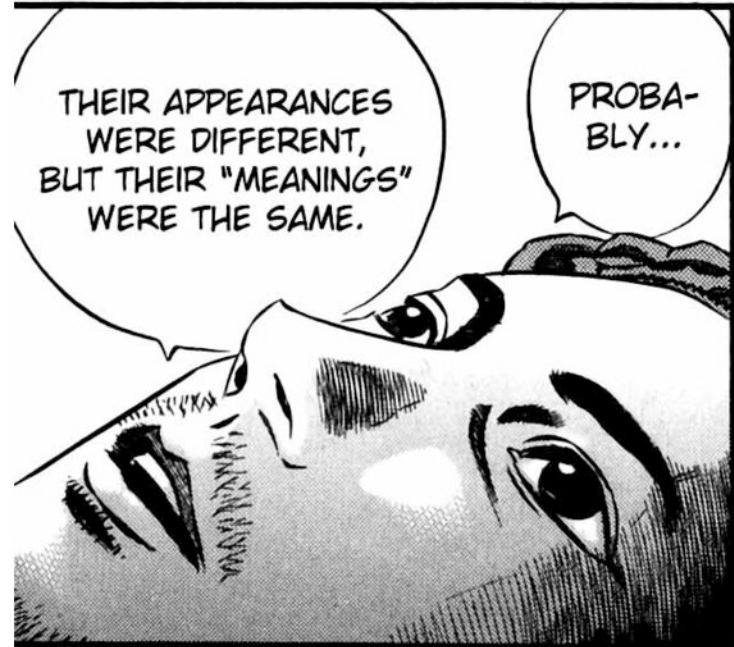


BY THE
WAY...



SHE SAW
OF THE SAME
STRUCTURE
AS THE ONES
YOU'VE SEEN?

WERE THE
HOMUNCULI



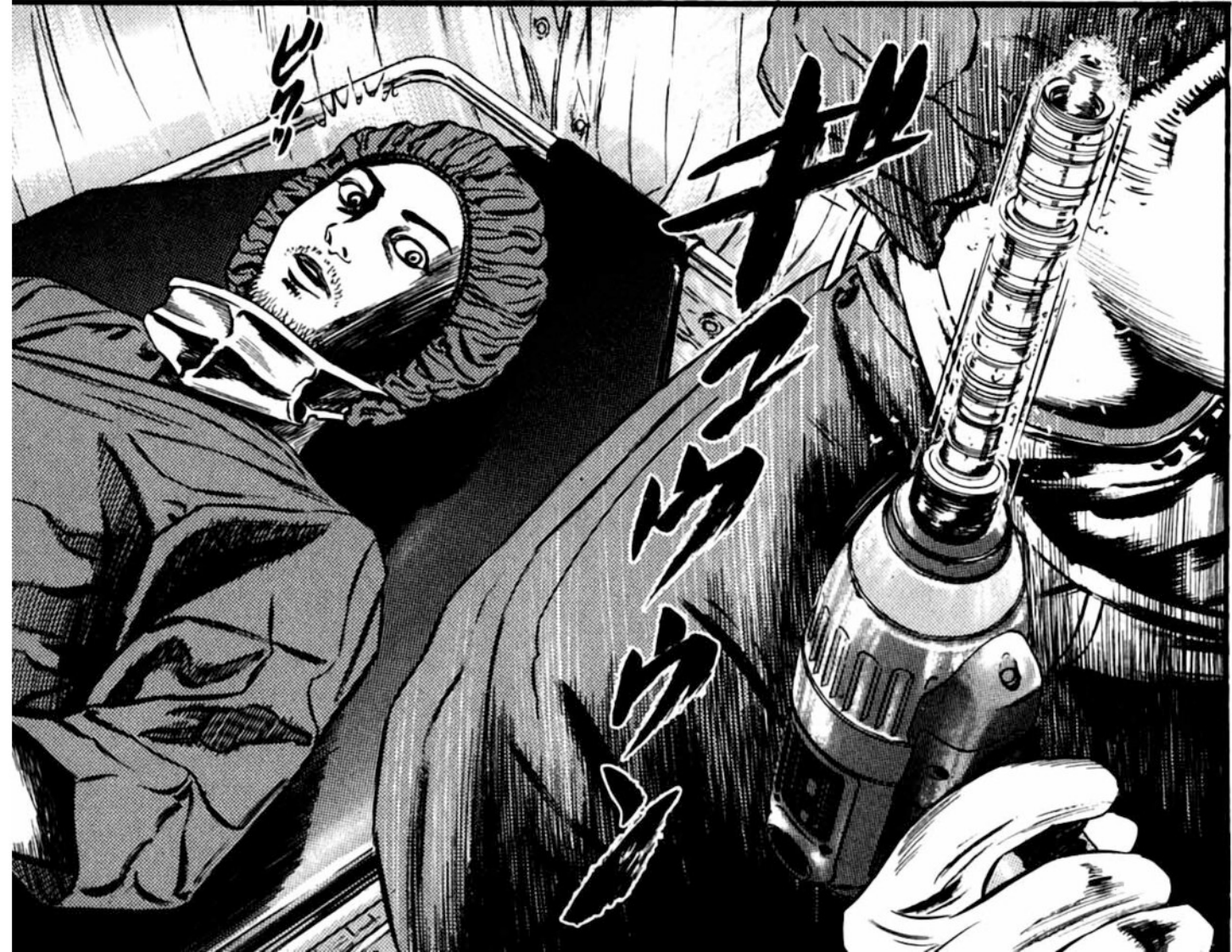
THEIR APPEARANCES
WERE DIFFERENT,
BUT THEIR "MEANINGS"
WERE THE SAME.

PROBABLY...



CLICK

KA-CHING





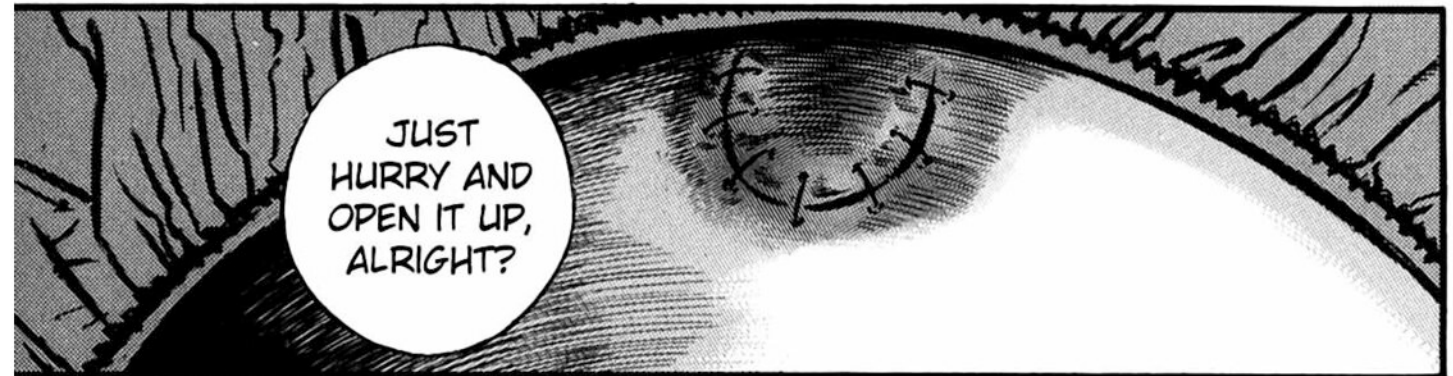
SEARCHING AND FINDING THAT WOMAN WOULD BE THE QUICKER WAY TO SOLVE THINGS?

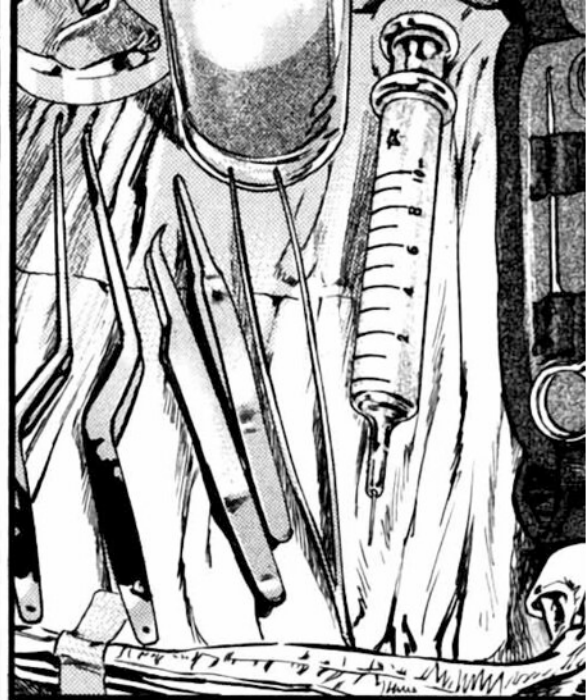
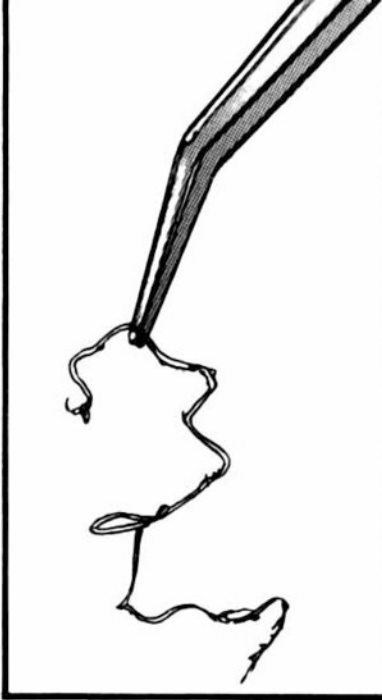
DON'T YOU THINK THAT RATHER THAN FILLING UP THE HOLE,



WHY DON'T YOU JUST HAVE YOUR EX TAKE A LOOK AT YOU?

WINK





WHAT'S
WRONG?

UH-OH.

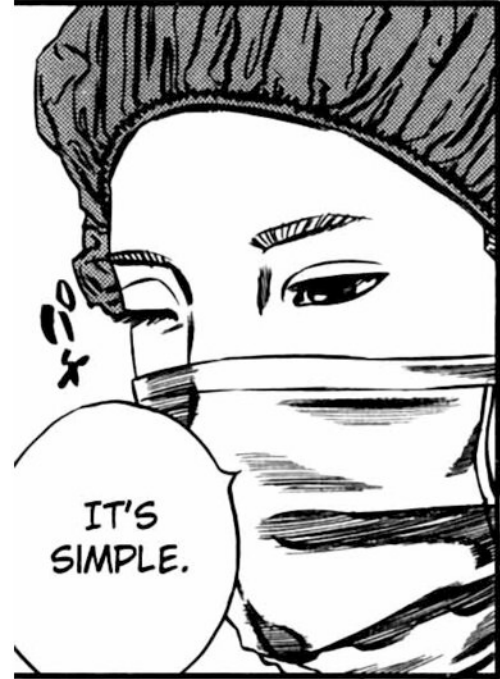


THE BONE ISN'T CLOSED,

BUT THE HOLE IS FILLED WITH PUS AND SCAB, SO IT APPEARS LIKE IT IS VIRTUALLY CLOSED.



THE HOLE IN YOUR CRANIUM...



IT'S SIMPLE.



HM... I SEE. SO THEN IF I REMOVE WHAT'S IN THE HOLE NOW,

IT'LL REVERT TO ITS PREVIOUS OPEN STATE.



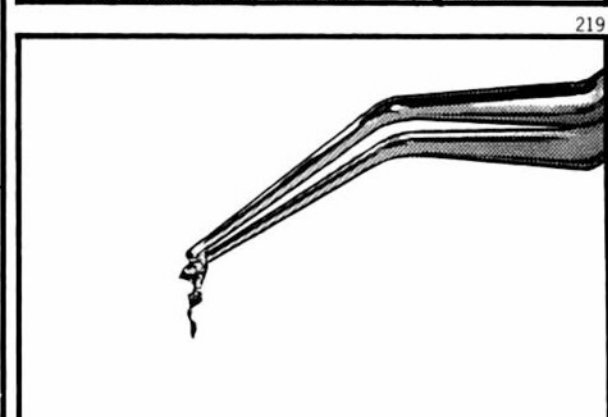
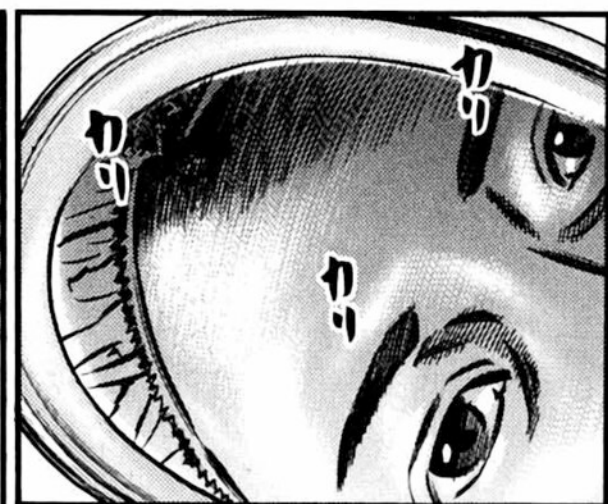
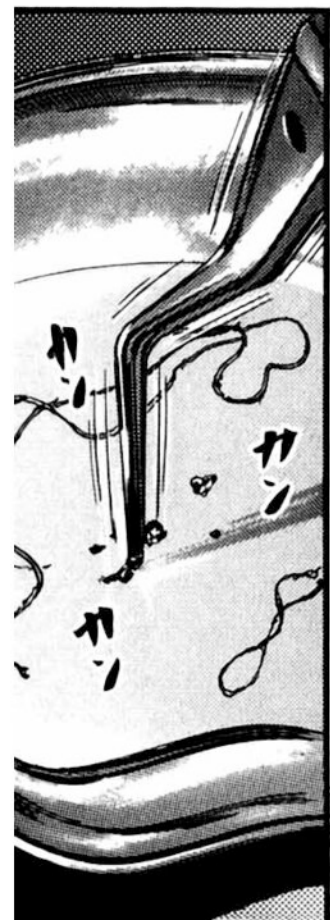
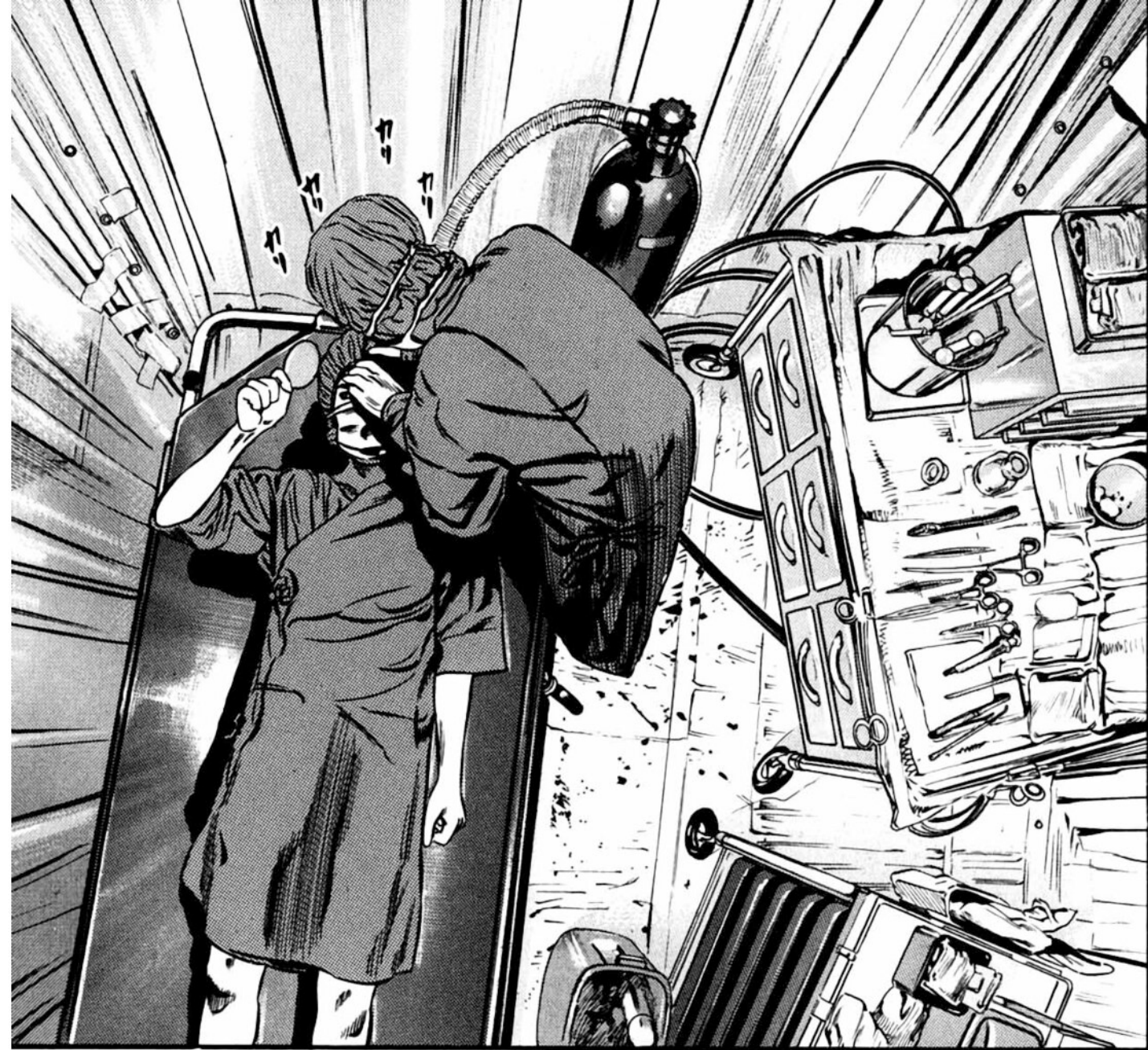
!

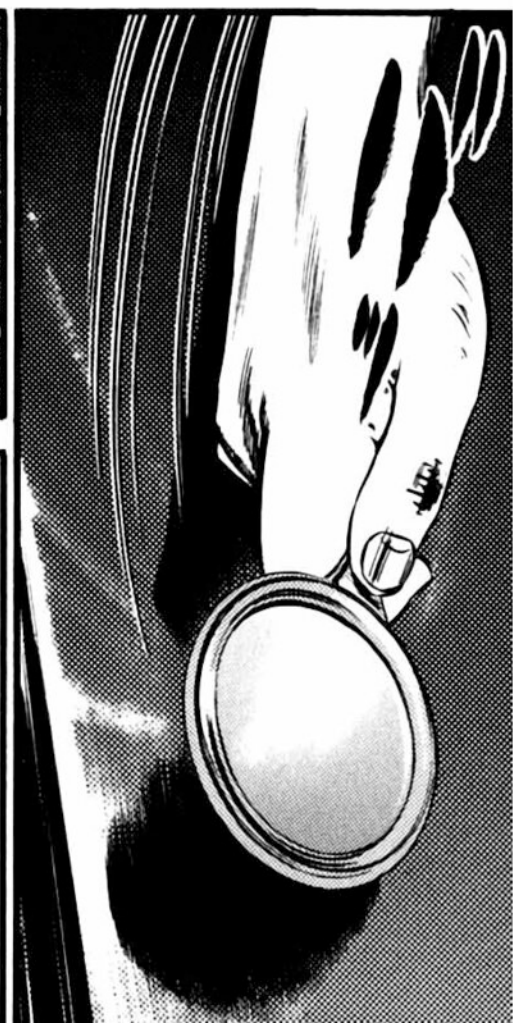




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.....



...NAKOSHI-SAN.



!

HEY, I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!



ANYWAY, LET'S CLOSE UP YOUR SKIN.



.....



IT TOOK A GOOD BIT OF TIME BEFORE YOU WERE ABLE TO SEE ANYTHING THE FIRST TIME, DIDN'T IT...

PLEASE DON'T GET ALL FLUSTERED.



YES?

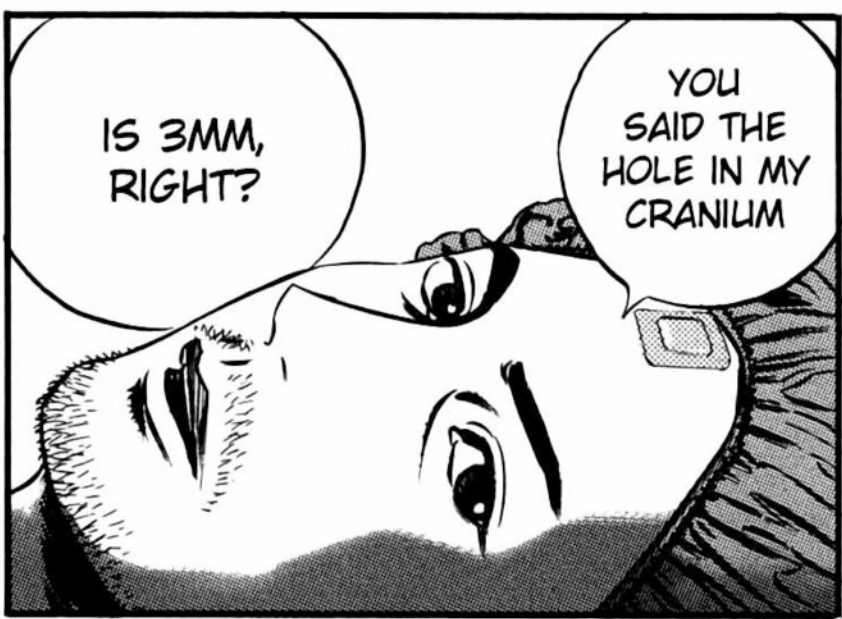
HEY.

CLINK



Y-

YES.



IS 3MM, RIGHT?

YOU SAID THE HOLE IN MY CRANIUM



!

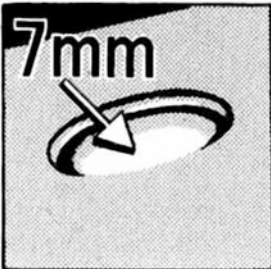
IN THAT REPORT, IT SAYS THAT "IF THE HOLE IS ANY SMALLER THAN 7MM, THEN ONE CANNOT EXPECT ANY ACTUAL EFFECTS FROM THE TREPANATION."



HAAH...

AND YOUR POINT...?

...they pull off an ancient medical procedure, in my mind. Much like the many pills of others before us, we worked together to get what was needed to do the thing and do it well. I fell into a customized series of dreams. I woke the next morning feeling more better, and still in good spirits. I attributed the growing pleasure sensation to two things it may take varying degrees of time from study to study for the Cerebrospinal Fluid. ...and then once all these do bleed, it may take a while for them to ... of the brain when they are considered, or ... it is still may gradually be hope ... stimulated and gradually my brain is getting ...



I had read that it increased brain mass to be ... I have remembered my dream since. It is also read however, that if you suddenly sleep, that you begin to ... speaking so I could be clear on the ... natural increase, in neural energy and ... after every morning like I used to. I just



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THE SIXTH SENSE APPEARS IN DIFFERENT SHAPES, RIGHT?

I KNOW.



THE TREPANATION EFFECTS

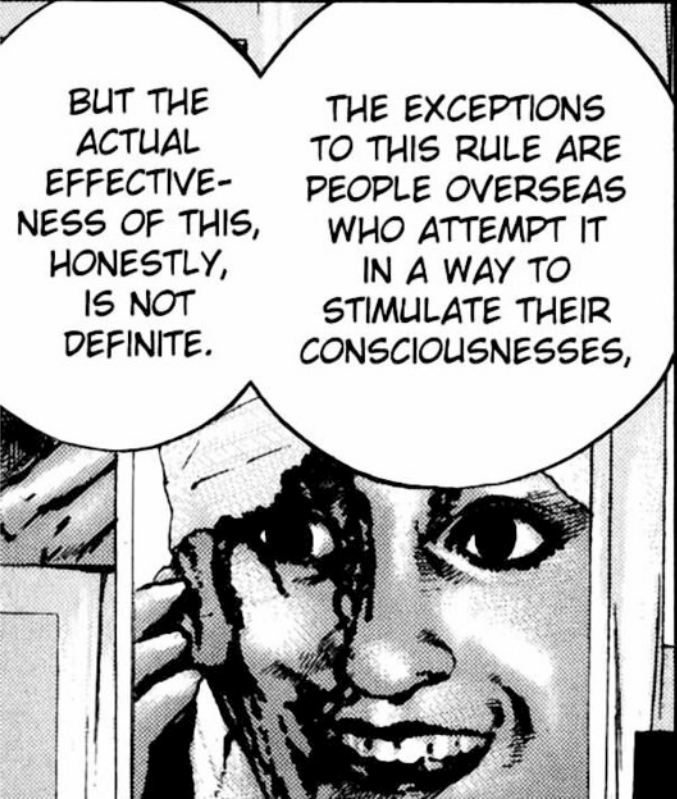
THAT REPORT REFERS TO ARE NOT NECESSARILY RELATED TO "SEEING HOMUNCULI."



!

THAT IS ALSO JUST A HOAX.

WRONG.




BUT THE ACTUAL EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS, HONESTLY, IS NOT DEFINITE.

THE EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE ARE PEOPLE OVERSEAS WHO ATTEMPT IT IN A WAY TO STIMULATE THEIR CONSCIOUSNESSES,



AND IT IS CERTAINLY NOT ADMINISTERED TO HEALTHY PEOPLE.



IN MODERN MEDICINE, TREPANATION IS UTILIZED FOR TREATING THINGS LIKE EPIDURAL HEMATOMA,

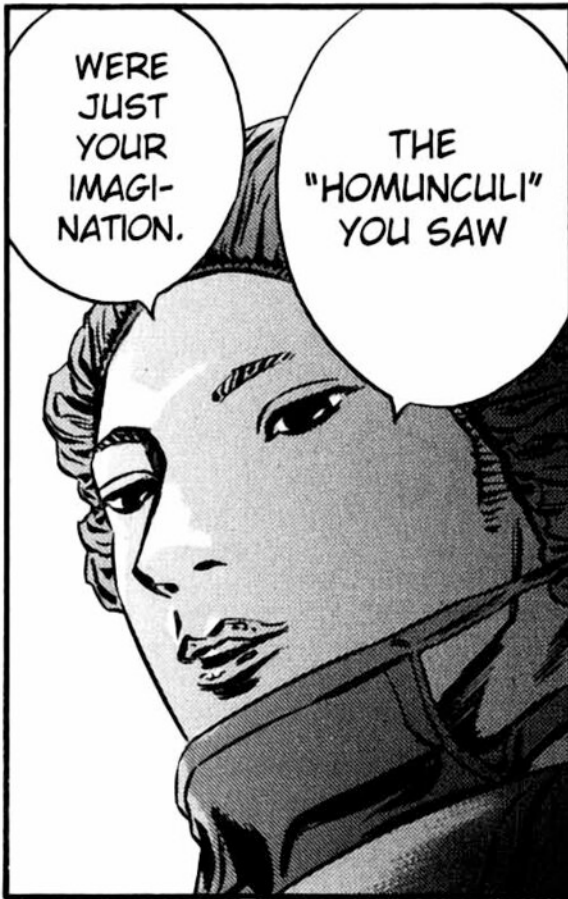


PSYCHIC
POWERS,
ESP... ALL THAT
TALK ABOUT A
SIXTH SENSE
APPEARING
IS A LIE.

IT'S JUST
A HOAX I
CREATED.



! ...

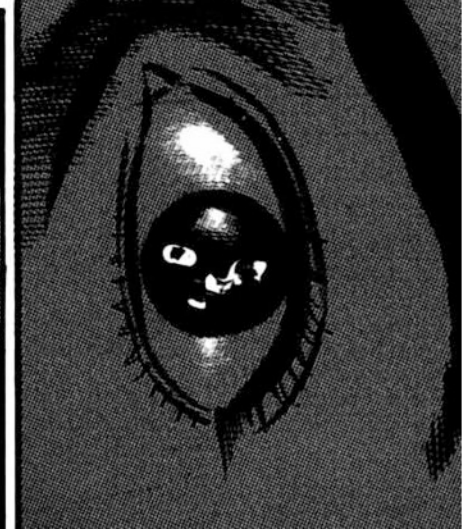
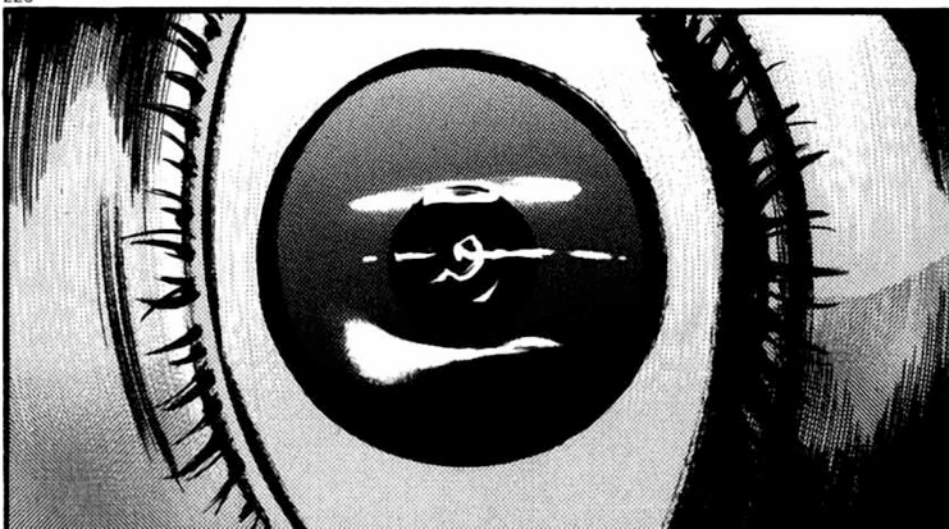


WERE
JUST
YOUR
IMAGI-
NATION.

THE
"HOMUNCULI"
YOU SAW



DON'T YOU
REMEMBER
WHAT I
SAID...?

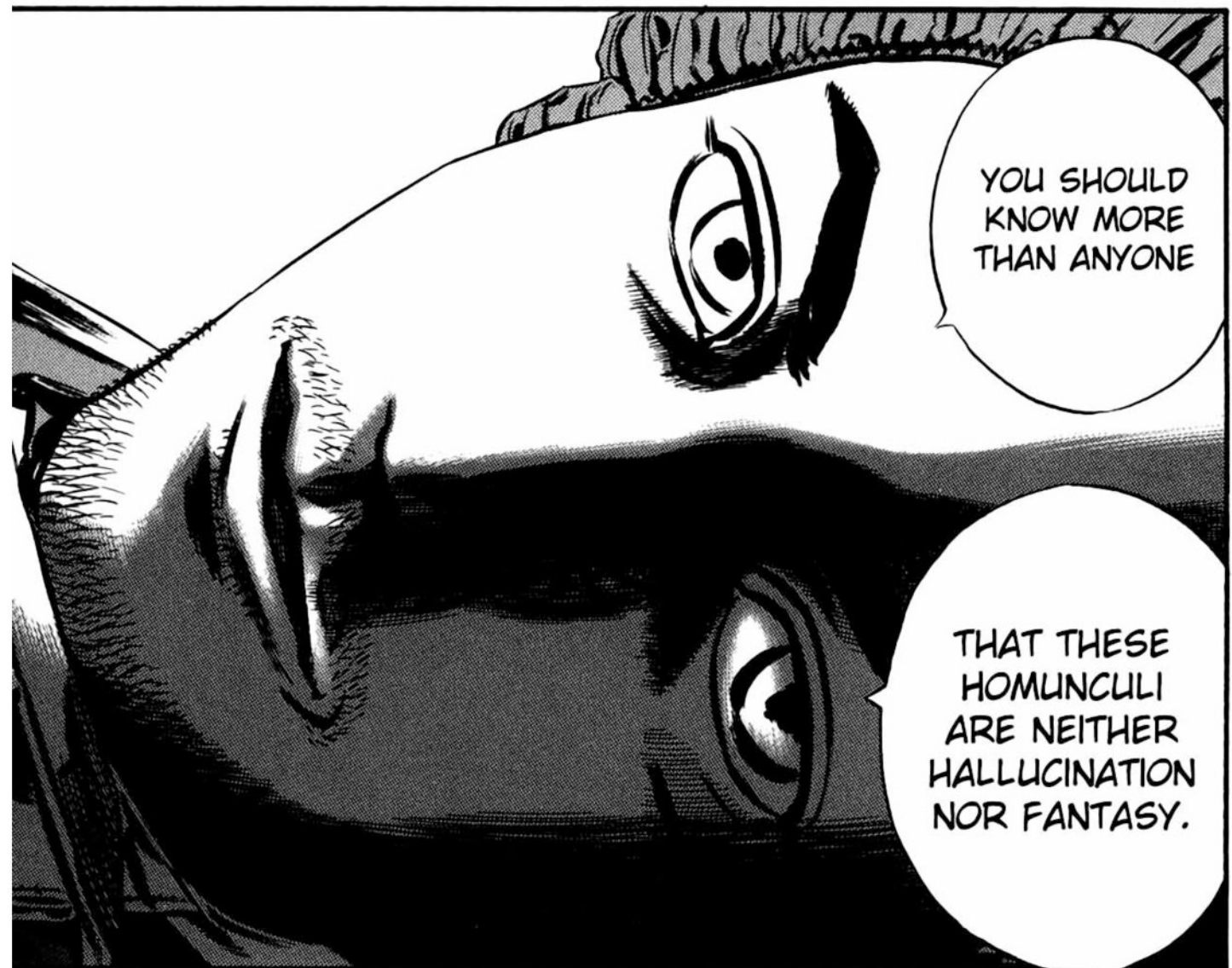




?




THAT'S
A GOOD
ONE.



YOU SHOULD
KNOW MORE
THAN ANYONE

THAT THESE
HOMUNCULI
ARE NEITHER
HALLUCINATION
NOR FANTASY.



⋮



H O M U N C U L U S
H I D E O Y A M A M O T O